

# THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 145, Vol. VI.

Saturday, October 7, 1865.

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Secretaries.

Manchester, September, 1865.

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7 OCTOBER, 1865.

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# THE READER.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1865.

## PRUSSIA AND ABYSSINIA.

TWO countries, widely dissimilar in every other respect, have been lately engaged in a friendly emulation to see how far they can set at nought the customs and remonstrances of nations far more powerful than themselves. It is unfortunate that both are Christian; for though we certainly set them a most edifying example of the virtue of humility, we cannot flatter ourselves that we are thereby supplementing the efforts of our missionaries. Prussia proclaims herself the active protector of a murderer; and Theodore, if he has not actually done so at present, may at any time earn that title with his own royal hands. In neither case has the civilized world any redress. Theodore is quite insensible to the disgrace of being exposed in the *Times*. On the contrary, the Queen of England's apology to her rejected suitor has probably long since occupied a conspicuous place in the columns of the *Abyssinian Court Journal*, if we have such contemporary. Abyssinia is a despotism untempered by any epigrams at all; and the only epigrams for which the world ever gave Prussia credit ceased with the failing faculties of her last king.

The Prussian press expresses surprise at the indignation of England and France. So Sapor reminded the Roman world that the stock arguments of moderation were invariably regarded by the vanquished alone. The brawl at Bonn may have been an accident after all; the verdict of an English jury might be "chance-medley." But that a dashing member of the Junker party should for one moment stand in a dock, is not to be thought of. He will be comfortably accommodated in an arm-chair somewhere at head-quarters, protected from cross-examination, and honourably acquitted. Perhaps he may be cautioned not to draw his sword again, until it is wanted against the French; but this will be rather understood than spoken. He will retire with a most aristocratic bow, and may expect speedy promotion. Count Eulenberg will no more be found guilty of murder than the American senator who shot the waiter because he did not bring breakfast quick enough. The Emperor Napoleon cannot complain of the verdict of a military tribunal. By strict civil law, he would long since have lost his own head on a public scaffold at Boulogne. Prince Alfred is the heir to a German throne, and cannot afford to quarrel with the leader of the German Confederacy.

The age of chivalry is certainly not over in Prussia. One knight is still worth ever so many common men. It is painful, but we must become alive to the fact, that we are getting too far ahead of the rest of the world. Good solid knocks are again becoming of considerable value in Europe. To some extent we share this disadvantage with France. But France, though no longer feudal, is despotic. Prussia is in the full flush of victory; and the privileges of a victorious country are not confined to the absorption of duchies and provinces. The prerogative must be shared with inferior vassals. The property of citizens is safer than their lives, or rather it can be got at better by other methods. But a victorious army cannot be insensible to its position. It

must either be disbanded, or it will become unmanageable. The army of the Peninsular war was instantly broken up, and dispersed to the East and West. The vast American army marched before the President and vanished. Prussia has no colonies, and her own burgesses must be to her conquering legions what the Hindoos are to us, and the Arabs to the French.

In another quarter, also, international law must be considered as defunct. The United States have declared they will not be bound by the decision of any of our municipal tribunals. They have no objection to enter our courts as a speculation, much as Lord Russell issues a despatch, but should the opinion be adverse, they will apply, as disappointed litigants generally say, in another quarter.

This view may not appear very honest, but we suspect it is strictly logical. I may be willing to pay the thief-taker for his trouble, but I may never recognize his right, and I would always hang him if I could. Nations are becoming very much like the strong men armed, who keep their goods in peace, while they can. They do not willingly prey upon one another, but it is as well not to give any one the chance. The companions of Polyphemus certainly went so far as to inquire into the cause of his complaint, when he cried particularly loud. But they made a most diplomatic use of his answer. Perhaps our Vice-Chancellor has been reading Homer in his leisure hours. "If it is Noman who has injured you, Brother Jonathan, Noman has got your cotton." To such shifts are we driven for want of an Amphictyonic council.

War may have been the last argument of nations, but still it was an argument. This reluctance to go to war on any occasion must have an effect analogous to the extinction of duelling in society. If we never fight, we must sometimes put up with insult. Very great powers resemble nature in their carelessness about the individual. He must depend upon his own ingenuity to escape the collision of fearful opposites. Captain Speke could reprove an African king as well as Mr. Stern, but then he promised to come back with a railway if he ever got home again. The next visitor of Mtésa will probably not get off quite so easily.

Mr. Palgrave has also stood before kings, and like the just man, has come away with his head on his shoulders. If people will write insulting things about a despot, they should wait, like M. Vambéry, till they get out of his dominions.

We sometimes hear of the proud position a Roman citizen used to hold, and that a Briton represents one in modern days. But a Roman was nobody beyond the empire; and the soldier of Crassus died old and unransomed in the fields of his Persian father-in-law. Augustus was only too happy to get back the ensigns as a mark of Royal favour; and perhaps a hundred years hence England may recover the autograph of its Queen much as Napoleon III. has been allowed to obtain the original testament of his uncle.

When we boast that the ships of England sail on every sea, we should remember that her subjects have lain captive in every dungeon. The British plenipotentiary, at the head of a British and French army united, could not save his countrymen from a terrible death.

But he was wise enough to act the barbarian in his turn; and the cloudy pillar which rose from the Summer Palace prevented the pillar of fire which once threatened the city of Pekin.

The case of Mr. Moens proves the law of nations to be still more out of joint. A public high-road borders upon a territory where there is no king at all in the land. It is the waste of the lord of Italy. He will neither enclose it himself nor let any one else do so. Pirates have lurked from time immemorial among the rocks of Salerno and the roses of Pæstum; and our novelists must look up the old Greek romances, which always turn upon the hero being kidnapped into slavery. Within a certain circle we are tolerably safe. But it seems doubtful whether that circle is enlarging or the reverse. The appearance of the fleet of England in an Abyssinian harbour, if there be one which could hold it, would no more rescue Mr. Stern from the dungeons of Gonda than the single line-of-battle ship could get Mr. Moens unransomed from the tents of Italian banditti.

Our policy has been very commercial lately. Suppose we take yet another lesson from the Stock Exchange. That worshipful body loudly cheered Mr. Moens on his reappearance among them. They knew exactly what he was worth. They remembered their "Ivanhoe," and how well outlaws can always estimate a man. A gentleman who had just been ransomed for eight thousand pounds needed no fresh certificate of respectability. So he got the same honour as did the Danes when victorious in their solitary sea-fight. But our merchants took care to lend King Christian no money; and we doubt if the most enthusiastic stockbroker will give Mr. Moens any unnecessary "turn" when he sets seriously about repairing his losses. After all, great nations cannot go to war now any more for individual wrongs than for the caprices of royal mistresses. Sapor was permitted to retain Valerian in peace. M. Otte will not be stuffed, nor will his skin and skull be shown in the museum of Sans Souci for the edification of English tourists. This is something; and when Mr. Stern comes back, he will doubtless be presented with the freedom of the city, which he will be well qualified to appreciate, after his compulsory sojourn in Abyssinia.

## CURRENT LITERATURE.

### HORACE WALPOLE AND THE MISSES BERRY.

[ART. NO. I.]

*Extracts of the Journals and Correspondence of Miss Berry, from the Year 1793 to 1852.*  
Edited by Lady Theresa Lewis. (Longman & Co.)

NO man in the eighteenth century was born with more advantages than Horace Walpole. The son of a great, a successful, and a popular Minister, who established the reigning family on the throne, consolidated constitutional government, vanquished his political enemies (among whom were such remarkable men as Bolingbroke, Chesterfield, Wyndham, Pulteney, Swift, and Atterbury), young Horace had opportunities from his earliest years of mixing in all sorts of society. At his father's house and table he found statesmen and soldiers, lawyers and diplomatists, country gentlemen and sportsmen, rascals and debauchees, scholars and authors, speculators and projectors, courtiers, fine



gentlemen, and exquisites of the fashion of that day. Nor were they merely natives of the British Isles who congregated at Houghton and the Minister's town mansion. Ambassadors and foreigners sought the society of a Minister who was as hearty, as cheerful, as good-natured, and as candid in his social commerce, as Charles Fox, or Charles Fox's pupil, the late Lord Melbourne. It was not wonderful—cradled in such company in his earliest years, receiving the best education in his youth and early manhood that Eton and Cambridge could afford, and enjoying four years of foreign travel—that Horace Walpole became a man of society and a man of the world—a man of accomplishment, *esprit*, tact, talent, and perfect breeding, at a period when most of the young aspirants of the present and of the last generation have had to try to learn and fail in acquiring all that Chesterfield was so solicitous to teach his son. Society and foreign travel most largely influenced in the formation of the character of Horace Walpole; but it should also be remembered that he entered Parliament at the early age of twenty-four, and that in the House he sat for twenty-six years much more as a listener than as a debater. Ripe he was, no doubt, in acquired knowledge when he entered the Commons in 1741, but we know that in his case, as in Gibbon's, the observation of the formalities and of the essence and spirit of debate greatly whetted and sharpened his faculties, and added to that intuitive perception of individual character and peculiarities of men and of things in which he ultimately became so great an adept. Gibbon was never a speaker, though always a discriminative observer; and Horace Walpole, though he spoke three times in his long Parliamentary career, and once with effect, was much more of an observer of the game of politics than an actor in a drama which occasionally partakes of all the alternations from the tragic to the comic and farcical.

In his fifty-first year Horace Walpole, satisfied, if not satiated, with public life, retired, and, with sinecure offices to the amount in full tale of 4,000*l.* a-year, withdrew from the Commons for ever, and went deliberately to establish himself for the remainder of his existence on the banks of the Thames at Twickenham. He was then in his prime, with literary tastes and capabilities strong by nature, and fortified by his former friend and fellow-traveller, Gray; and he set to work, with zeal, industry, and enthusiasm, creating in England a society such as had existed in France for more than sixty years previously to his time. All that was best and brightest among the Whig party of that day gathered round him. There was General Henry Seymour Conway, who had been Secretary of State from 1765 to 1768, and his celebrated daughter, Mrs. Damer; there were Charles Townsend, George Selwyn, Gibbon, Topham, Beauchamp, Fitzpatrick, Burgoyne, Stanhope, O'Hara, Gilly, Williams, Fitzherbert (Lord St. Helens), Quentin Crawford, Fox, Tickell, Hare, and many others unnecessary to mention here. Gray, the lettered poet, with whom Walpole had travelled in Italy, was not of his society, for the quondam friends had quarrelled; but any gentleman remarkable for a love of or a proficiency in letters, or any lady distinguished by such tastes, was thoroughly welcomed by the refined, fastidious, and eminently critical host of Twickenham and Strawberry Hill.

This gathering in his *bijou* of a house was not a literary Hotel Rambouillet; it was not a coterie of mere Hanoverians and Whigs; it was not a clique or an *Edinburgh Review* muster, like the assemblages at Holland House; it was altogether a more catholic meeting, and was the first practical attempt of an erudite and accomplished gentleman, the son of a great Minister, to assemble together men and women distinguished by liberal culture, liberal principles, urbane manners, thorough good-breeding, and refined taste. The attempt

happily succeeded, and the result was that, in the half-century between 1747 and 1797, the epoch of Horace Walpole's death, England made a greater progress towards that literary social sodality by which France had been distinguished for nearly a century previously than in any period of her history.

It has been the fashion of late years to run down Horace Walpole as a frivolous dilettante, as a selfish Sybarite, without energy or earnest convictions, literary or political; but, in answer to this reproach, we may point to his friendship for Conway and Conway's daughter, Mrs. Damer; to his disinterested regard for Sir Horace Mann, and to his unvarying kindness, esteem, and affection for the two distinguished ladies whose interesting journals, correspondence, and letters are now before us.

The father of those ladies was the maternal nephew of a Scotch merchant, who, coming up to London in 1709, made a fortune of 300,000*l.* A married man, without family, his sister's sons became his heirs. Miss Berry's father was the eldest of these, and was bred to the law. In 1762 he married a distant relative of his own, without fortune; and, having no male issue, his younger brother, who had married a fortune, and had sons, was preferentially adopted, and became the heir to the property of the rich old uncle. The Miss Berrys' father was ultimately allowed an annuity of 800*l.* or 1,000*l.* a-year by his younger brother. Miss Berry was born in 1763, and her sister in 1764. Her earlier years were spent in Yorkshire; but in 1770, when she was seven years old, they removed to Chiswick, where she had a Miss Bouchier for governess, who left to be married when Mary, the elder of the sisters, was twelve years old. Till this age, neither of the sisters had the least religious education. Their grandmother, becoming aware of the fact, made them read the Psalms every morning; but as neither explanation nor comment was made, the duty was disliked and escaped.

The year after the Berrys came to Chiswick, their aunts Cayley and Lynnot returned from Italy, and the accounts Mary Berry heard of the beauties and charms of that fair land impressed on her mind the strong desire of seeing it. In May, 1783, when the elder sister was twenty, and the younger, Agnes, nineteen, they proceeded with their father to the Continent. From Holland they went by the Rhine to Switzerland and Italy. At Florence, where, in 1783, was their first sojourn, she began to feel how dependent she was on her own resources for her conduct, respectability, and success in life. Her father was a man of easy, indolent character, and she soon found that she must be a protecting mother to her sister, and to her father a guide and monitor, instead of finding in him a tutor and protector.

Thus early in life she made the acquaintance of Sir Horace Mann, our Minister at Florence, who more than forty years before had commenced an acquaintance in that fair city with Horace Walpole, which ripened into an intimacy that existed for nearly half a century, an intimacy that was only severed by the death of one of the parties.

The earliest journal of Miss Berry is characteristic, and shows how young in life her tastes were developed. Her observations are marked by intelligence, good sense, and good taste, and by a decision and judgment rarely found in one of her sex and age. When the desultory nature of the lady's education is remembered, and it is borne in mind that she wrote eighty-two years ago, when neither Forsyth, Eustace, Mathews, Burton, or Miss Waldie had published their travels, her judgment and taste appear marvellous. Good sense, discretion, and sound information are her distinguishing characteristics, and there is apparent even thus early that intuitive tact, sagacity, and good breeding by which the authoress was always fortified. Every one almost has now travelled in Italy, and it were tedious as a twice told tale

to give extracts from journals containing descriptions of St. Peter's, the Catacombs, the Vatican, and the Colosseum; but at the time when these observations were made, there were neither steamboats nor railroads. A journey to Rome, however swiftly made, with a family, consumed eight or ten weeks, and there were then no aids and appliances in the way of guides, unless in the Italian language. After more than a year spent in various parts of Italy, the Berry family returned by way of Marseilles to France, at the close of 1784. After spending four months at Montpellier, where were M. and Madame de Neckar and their daughter (afterwards Madame de Stael), they proceeded by way of Nismes to Paris. There the father and the two daughters remained from the 20th March till June, 1785, when they all returned to England. It is to be regretted that there is no record of Miss Berry's observations on the capital of France, nor have we any journal preserved of the years 1786 or 1787.

In the year 1788, when she was twenty-five, she first made Mr. Walpole's acquaintance at Lady Herries. That autumn the two sisters became his neighbours at Twickenham, and mention is made of them in Horace's published letters. From 1788 till 1797, the year of his death, "the great solace and interest of his declining life" appears, to use the words of the editor of these volumes, "to have been derived from his constant social intercourse and frequent correspondence with the young ladies, upon whom he lavished at times the tender epithets of wives, children, friends." In a letter to Lady Ossory, in October, 1788, Walpole speaks of the Misses Berry "as the best-informed and most perfect creatures he ever saw at their age." He describes them as "sensible, natural, unaffected, frank; qualified to talk on any subject; easy, agreeable, and apposite in their observations." He goes on to remark: The eldest understands Latin, and is a perfect Frenchwoman; and the younger draws charmingly. Mary he describes as an angel, both inside and out; and he says, in conclusion, "This delightful family comes to me almost every Sunday evening." Prose and verse were unceasingly exhausted in the praise of both sisters during the course of 1788. The Strawberry press was busily at work in recording their beauty, agreeability, and attainments, in all the permanency of print, and they now became the talk of town and country. Not satisfied with writing and talking about them, their admirer composed for their amusement his reminiscences of the Courts of George I. and George II. Discontented with these demonstrations of more than interest and friendship, Walpole commenced a series of letters to them in February, 1789, which were continued for years and years, and in which are apparent the constant struggle that was going on in his mind between the tenderness with which he dwells on the pleasure of their society and the fear of its expression rendering him ridiculous. He was then seventy-one years of age, keenly sensible of the opinion of the world, of the shafts of ridicule, and of the disparity between January and May; and yet, in a letter of February 2, he says: "I am afraid of protesting how much I delight in your society, lest I should seem to affect being gallant; but if two negatives make an affirmative, why may not two ridicules compose one piece of sense? and, therefore, as I am in love with you both, I trust it is a proof of the good sense of your devoted." So early as 1789, Walpole introduced his friend to Lady Aylesbury, afterwards married to Marshal Conway, and to Mrs. Damer, her daughter, who married John Damer, son of Lord Milton, afterwards Earl of Dorchester. Nine years after their marriage he shot himself in a London tavern, and she was left a widow in 1776. Mrs. Damer subsequently became famous as a sculptor, and executed busts of Fox, Nelson, George IV., and Miss Berry. Mrs. Damer survived till 1826, when she died, aged eighty.

At this time the sisters and their father were



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living in Somerset Street, Portman Square, and scarcely a day passed without a missive from the admiring Horace. By the month of July, 1789, the solicitude of Walpole was so great to have the family of the Berrys near him, that he set to work with the zeal of a Squib or a Gillow to procure them a domicile near to Strawberry Hill. He signed himself in some of these communications, addressed to Yorkshire, Oxfordshire, and elsewhere, Horace Fondlewives, and gathered for his young friends all the news of the progress of the French Revolution which he could collect from the Conways, the Argyles, the Boscawens, the Dysarts, and ever so many others. At length a house was obtained for the sisters and their father at Teddington, and Walpole was happy. At the close of the year of 1789 he inscribed his catalogue of Strawberry Hill to Mary and Agnes, a mansion which they had often made delightful by their company, conversation, and talents. In the October of 1790, the sisters and their father went abroad a second time, and wintered between Florence and Pisa. Walpole's sadness at the thought of parting with his friends for a twelvemonth is very apparent in his correspondence. He calls them his dear wives, his darling children of whom he was bereaved, and dates one of his letters thus, "Sunday, October 10, 1790, the day of your departure."

"As wives and darling children," he says, "I have loved and do love you; and, charming as you both are, I have no occasion to remind you that I am past seventy-three."

V. K.

## MORMONISM.

*Artemus Ward (His Travels) Among the Mormons.* (Hotten.)

THE great success which attended the publication of "Artemus Ward—His Book" has, naturally enough, led to the issue of another volume of Mr. Browne's literary eccentricities, with which his admirers must content themselves until the author appears before them as a lecturer. We are informed "that he will for a time fill the place of the late Albert Smith," but unless he is possessed of an unworked vein of humour superior to any which he has already developed, it is very problematical whether he will attain the high position predicted for him. At the first glance there appears to be a vast fund of humour in the sayings of Artemus Ward; but it is soon seen that there is not much to smile at after all. One serious objection to the work is the tone of obtrusive impiety which prevails throughout. Without any redeeming wit, the most flippant and senseless allusions are made to subjects which are by common consent avoided in jocular literature. After the real and sparkling wit of Haliburton and Washington Irving, the vulgar buffoonery of Artemus Ward will not raise the character of American literature, though it has probably suited the taste of a large class of readers among his own countrymen.

The present volume is edited by Mr. Hingston, who was the companion and agent of Mr. Browne on a lecturing tour, which comprised a visit to Salt Lake City. In a long and unnecessary introduction, the editor gives what he evidently considers to be very brilliant specimens of his employer's wit, taken from the programme of the entertainment. Here are specimens: "An intermission of five minutes will occur here, so the lecturer can go across the street to 'see a man.' The pianist, however, will meanwhile practise some new music." "Soldiers on the battle-field will be admitted to this entertainment gratis." Mr. Browne will scarcely thank his editor for reproducing these and other equally feeble attempts to create a laugh among the idlers in the streets of Boston or New York. One object of the author is to give a facetious description of the people he met and the places he passed through in his journey; but, with the exception of a certain drollery not at all of a high class, there is little but a futile and extrava-

gant imitation of other American humorists. The following extracts will explain our meaning:—

John Phoenix was once stationed at Stockton, and put his mother on board the San Francisco boat one morning with the sparkling remark, "Dear mother, be virtuous, and you will be happy."

They had a flood here (he is writing of Sacramento) some years ago, during which several blocks of buildings sailed out of town, and have never been heard from since. A Chinaman concluded to leave in a wash-tub, and actually set sail in one of these fragile barks. A drowning man hailed him piteously, thus: "Throw me a rope! oh, throw me a rope!" To which the Chinaman replied, "No have got—how can do?" and went on with the howling current. He was never seen more, but a few weeks afterwards his tail was found by some Sabbath-school children in the north part of the State.

It was not to be expected that the author would treat Mormonism or the Mormons very seriously, but he might at least have given something like a description of the inner life of a strange people, who, according to his own statement, treated him with every kindness and consideration.

Concerning Brigham Young, we are told that—

The gateway of his block is surmounted by a brass American eagle; and they say that he receives his spiritual despatches through this piece of patriotic poultry. They also say that he receives revelations from a stuffed white calf that is trimmed with red ribbons, and kept in an iron box. I don't suppose these things are true. Rumour says that when the Lion House was ready to be shingled, Brigham received a message from the Lord, stating that the carpenters must all take hold and shingle it, and not charge a red cent for their services. Such carpenters as refused to shingle would go to hell, and no postponement on account of the weather. They say that Brigham, whenever a train of emigrants arrives at Salt Lake City, orders all the women to march up and down his block, while he stands on the portico of the Lion House and gobbles up the prettiest ones.

We may be allowed to doubt that a travelling comic lecturer was invited to a "saints' ball," at which Brigham Young danced, "exhibiting a spryness of legs quite remarkable in a man at his time of life;" and the readers of "Artemus Ward—His Book" will not fail to recollect that in the chapter on "Shakers" the dancing of Elder Uriah was described in exactly the same words. "Brigham Young says the devil has monopolized the good music long enough, and it is high time the Lord had a portion of it." Everybody will recollect this as one of the many anecdotes related of Rowland Hill. Further on we are told that in the orchestra of the prophet's theatre there is a youth "who plays the cornet like a North American angel."

The second part of the book contains papers under the head of "Perlite Litteratoor," in which here and there are to be found passages which will raise a laugh, but far more plentiful are such witless vulgarities as the following extract from a letter supposed to have been addressed to the Prince of Wales, and which reads like a bit of "Sam Slick," from which the humour had been unaccountably omitted:—

As I sed, I manige my wife without any particler trouble. When I fust commenced trainin' her, I institooted a series of experiments, and them as didn't work I abanding'd. You'd better similer. Your wife may object to gittin up and bildin' the fire in the mornin', but if you commence with her at once you may be able overkum this pre-joodis. I regret to obsarve that I didn't commence airly enuff. I wouldn't have you s'pose I was ever kicked out of bed. Not at all. I simply say in regard to bildin' fires that I didn't commence airly enuff. It was a rather cold mornin' when I fust proposed the idee to Betsy. It wasn't well received, and I found myself layin' on the floor putty suddent. I thought I'd git up and bild the fire myself. Of course, now you're married, you can eat onions. I allus did, and if I know my own hart, I allus will. My

daughter, who is going on 17 and is frisky, says they's disgustin'.

The extremely exaggerated mis-spelling of words in Artemus Ward's books is only equalled by the papers given to puzzle a candidate for the Civil Service, and is productive of more weariness than laughter.

## SAXON CHARTERS.

*Diplomatarium Anglicum Ævi Saxonici: a Collection of English Charters from the Reign of King Æthelbert of Kent, A.D. 605, to that of William the Conqueror.* By Benjamin Thorpe. (Macmillan & Co.)

IT is impossible to understand the history of a people without carefully studying its habits of thought, and tracing the rise and progress of the national mind down to their earliest stages. Few countries furnish such rich materials for the purpose as our own, and amongst these Crown grants and tenures conveyed by charter claim a prominent rank. The plain, strong common sense of the present Englishman is simply the bright reflex upon a more polished surface of that which was the marked characteristic of our Anglo-Saxon ancestors more than eight hundred years ago. "To such documents," remarks Mr. Kemble in the introduction to his valuable collection of Anglo-Saxon Charters, published by the English Historical Society some twenty years since, "we must look for our information respecting the law of real property; the descent of and liabilities of land; the nature and tenure of service; the authority of the Crown, the nobility, and the Church; even the power of the popular councils. But however great the light which these documents throw upon the foundations and gradual growth of our law, their value is no less as bearing upon the mere details of early English history. That which they are to the codes of the kings in a legal sense, they are also to the annalists in an historical sense. They furnish, in short, the best means of correcting or attesting the assertions of individual writers." Indeed, as Mr. Thorpe says, "these charters may be considered, with respect to our early history, what letters, State papers, and pamphlets are to our later history; and may almost be regarded as the documentary annals of England, supplying us with information for which in history we seek in vain."

The late Mr. Kemble, jointly with Mr. Thorpe, submitted to Sir James Graham, then at the head of the Home Office, the plan of an enlarged edition of the former gentleman's "Codex Diplomaticus Ævi Saxonici," in which every document in Anglo-Saxon was to be accompanied by an English translation. Circumlocution ruled then even more than now, and no answer was returned to the application. After the death of Mr. Kemble, Mr. Thorpe offered the work to Sir Samuel Romilly, as one suitable to be included in the series of works in course of publication under the direction of the Master of the Rolls. The offer was rejected on the score of expense. "To obviate this objection," says Mr. Thorpe, "and at the same time to render the book more generally useful, I resolved on dividing the charters into two classes, one consisting of those directly or indirectly bearing on our early history, the other of those belonging to the province of topography—viz., the simple grants of land. A volume comprising the charters of the first-mentioned class I also offered to the Master of the Rolls, but this offer fared no better than the preceding one. This is the volume which I now submit to the public."

The first portion of this work consists of 445 pages of Miscellaneous Charters, or of documents that are not simple grants of land, or are not comprised in the other portions. In common with the Wills, these documents throw considerable light upon the manners of the age, particularly some of the grants of immunity to monasteries from the burthen of entertaining the King's messengers, horses, hounds, hawks, &c., thus exhibiting a close counterpart to the tenures



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of the later Norman period. How interesting many of these are, any one conversant with "Blount's Ancient Tenures of Land, and Jocular Customs of some Manors" will readily conceive.

The second portion of the volume consists of Wills and Bequests, mostly of royal and noble persons, archbishops, and bishops. These are chiefly in Anglo-Saxon, and, as most of them have till now remained untranslated either into Latin or modern English, they open up a hitherto unexplored source of study of the domestic life, dress, furniture, utensils, ornaments, &c., of the period, and throw considerable light upon the state of civilization in England previous to the Conquest.

Next follows a small section of eleven pages, which forms the third portion, and which is inscribed Guilds. These Mr. Thorpe would trace back to Pagan times, to the sacrificial feasts of the heathens, the germ of the municipal system of the Teutonic nations. Of these associations there were three kinds: Trade Guilds, Frith or Peace Guilds, and Guilds instituted for social or religious purposes. The Trade Guilds are the origin of our Civic Companies, and associations of foreign traders, chiefly from Flanders and the north of Germany, the most famous of which, both in rank and antiquity, was that of the Hanseatic merchants of the Steel-yard, whose names and abiding-place in Upper Thames-street, the origin of which may perhaps be traced to the reign of Æthelred II., have only just been swept away to make room for a London and Chatham Railway terminus. Of the Social, the Frith or Peace Guilds, mention is made in the laws of Ina. Of them we still possess a precious monument in the *Judicia Civitatis Londoniæ*, a deed of incorporation by the prelates and reeves of the Londoners for the repression of theft and maintenance of public peace, "which, in its provisions, is closely akin to the later institution of Frithborg, or, as it is mistranslated, Frankpledge." But perhaps the most interesting of all guilds, were those which, allowing for difference of times and manners, resembled in all but the rank of their members the friendly societies and benefit clubs of our present working classes, or rather, perhaps, the provident institutions of trades, like those of the book-sellers or tailors of to-day.

The fourth section of the volume is headed "Manumissions and Acquittances." It consists of twenty pages, and is of great value in tracing the history of names and the nationality to which they belong. Amongst the names of manumitted serfs, occur some of our present surnames, of which many, no doubt, were originally nicknames and personal, but afterwards became transmissible.

The volume ends with a compendious glossary and index, and its opening page is a grateful dedication to Mr. Joseph Mayer, of Liverpool, every word of which will be heartily responded to by all lovers of archaeology, monumental and literary. To the liberality of Mr. Mayer the public owes another lasting debt of gratitude for the possession of this most valuable record of Anglo-Saxon life and manners, the labour of love of one of the most accomplished Anglo-Saxon scholars and antiquaries.

## DREAMS.

*The Literature and Curiosities of Dreams.* By Frank Seafield, M.A. Two Vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

MR. SEAFIELD calls his work, modestly enough, a "common-place book;" but an uncommon-place book would describe it better. All the curious incidents that have ever occurred in the sleep of any sleeping being are chronicled in these volumes. What everybody has written on a subject that interests everybody; the guesses made by one and the doubts that have occurred to another; the wisdom of fools, and the follies of wise men; interpretations and counter-interpretations; laws by which you may understand the

secret meaning of dreams, and others by which you may breathe a secret meaning into dreams which you create yourself;—all is unrolled before us: an immense mass of diligent compilation, and no attempt to reduce it either to system or order. It was, of course, open to Mr. Seafield to pause where he has paused, and not to pursue his subject to a theory, or rather a "law." But if Mr. Buckle had been contented with this view, how many readers would he have found? And if Mr. Seafield had followed Mr. Buckle, on how many readers might he not have counted? He demands a little praise on the score of modesty. It is just on this score that we are most disposed to blame him. However, we cannot find it in our hearts to bestow our censure where we have so much cause for gratitude.

The chief questions connected with dreams are,—whether they have a hidden meaning, or are merely exercises of the fancy; and whether their meaning can be determined by any mode of interpretation. Many of the stories Mr. Seafield quotes, and many of the authorities who comment on these stories, would seem to lead us to the view of Dryden:—

Dreams are but interludes which fancy makes;  
When monarch reason sleeps, this mimic wakes.

The experiments of M. Maury, to which we shall probably return, the practical jokes communicated by Dr. Millingen, prove that it is possible to make people dream, with all the vividness of present life, that they are doing certain things which are really suggested by something totally different; but, on the other hand, there are well-authenticated dreams which do not admit of any such solution. Of course, this has a disturbing effect. We cannot attach certainty, or even great importance, to our dreams; we cannot act upon their warnings, if we do not know in which category we are to class them. They may be true and mysterious, like many instances in these volumes; but they may be the product of some trick played upon us by others, or even by our imagination.

Let us place these two instances side by side. Two sisters were attending a sick brother. One of the sisters had borrowed a watch from a friend, and she dreamed that the borrowed watch had stopped. In her dream she told the other sister that the watch had stopped, and the other sister replied, "Something much worse has happened; our brother's breath has stopped also." The dreamer awoke in horror, roused her sister, and told her. To quiet her mind, she at once got up and went to look at her brother, and at her watch. The brother was found sleeping peacefully, and the watch was going. The dream occurred again the next night; the day following, the sister who had the watch on suddenly found that it had stopped, and the very same moment there was a scream from the other sister; the brother had died in a sudden fit of suffocation. This is the credit side of dreams; the next story is the debit. A young man far away from home dreamt that he went to his father's house at night, and had to get in at the back door, owing to the front door being locked. He then went to his parent's bedroom, and told his mother that he was going a long journey, and had come to bid her good-bye. She at once exclaimed, "Oh, dear son, thou art dead." A few days after came a letter from the father, asking anxiously after the son's health, as the very same night the mother had dreamed that she heard some one try the front door, then go round to the back door, and come at last into her bedroom. When the figure came into her bedroom, she saw it was her son, who addressed her in the very same words he had used to her in his dream, and received the very same reply. But nothing unusual happened to either son or mother.

Now, if we were to judge these two dreams by the law of probabilities, and ask which was most likely to come true, we should certainly say the second. It was quite natural that a sister watching a beloved brother in his sickness, and charged with a valuable

watch belonging to a friend, should be anxious about both her treasures. The analogy of a watch stopping and of human breath stopping was sufficiently near to occur to the fancy, whether waking or sleeping. The fact that the dream had come one night would of itself be a reason for its recurring the next. There would have been nothing strange in its not coming true. On the other hand, that a precisely identical dream should have come to two people at a distance from each other, is so strange that it can be explained by no natural law. The identical words, the details of the front door and the back door, cannot be argued away by an appeal to "some strong mental impression." And yet the first dream came true, and nothing came of the second.

Some might be inclined to lay more stress on the failure of the second dream than on the success of the first. And even the strongest believers must admit that such contradictions make a "law" of dreams almost impossible. But it is equally difficult to upset the marvellous class of dreams by any matter-of-fact explanation. One of the writers quoted by Mr. Seafield is most desirous of referring all dreams to the action of the mind in sleep, and is yet forced to avow that the stoppage of the watch is a case which does not admit of an explanation. He himself vouches for its accuracy, and he is compelled to receive it as "one of those facts which we can in no degree account for." Yet, when he tells the story of a father who dreamt that his children were in danger from fire, or the story of a clergyman who dreamt that there were three one-pound notes in one of the collecting ladles, he prefers the strangest suppositions to a simple avowal. "Let us suppose," he says, "that the father knew some servant in his house was careless about fire, and knew moreover that some special merrymaking was to occur that evening, and that the servant would probably go to bed intoxicated. It was most natural that these impressions should be embodied into a dream of his house being on fire." True, but what warrant have we for thus supposing? Again, a clergyman dreamt that in one of the ladles used for collecting three one-pound notes had been stuck together. He went to church early in the morning, found the ladle which he had seen in his dream, and the three one-pound notes in a corner of it. "Let us suppose" that the clergyman had calculated on some families giving him a pound each. "Let us suppose" that a particular ladle had been presented to three of those families, and had contained no one-pound notes. "Let us suppose" again that the clergyman set his mind to work on the subject, and that his mind presented during sleep the solution which had failed it in the day. Here again, what is our warrant? Why are we to abandon a simple and natural solution for one so forced and complicated? Does it not stand to reason that if the clergyman had counted on three families giving a pound-note each, and knew which ladle had been presented to those three families, he would have looked again and more carefully in the ladle to see if the pound-notes had by any accident passed unnoticed?

It is for these reasons we object to the materialistic view of dreams. We admit that all other views have their difficulties, and that one of the chief difficulties is the play of fancy. Of this, there are many instances in Mr. Seafield's volumes. There is a curious story of a man sleeping at a cheesemonger's, in a room infested by rats, and dreaming that he was shut up in a large cheese, and attacked, like Bishop Hatto, by an army of rats. There is another of a man kicking the bedclothes off his feet, and dreaming that he went barefooted to the butcher's to return a joint that had been sent by mistake. In another case, a lady dreams that an epidemic has attacked noses, and finds that her hand was resting on her own nose so as to stop the circulation. In another, a lady asleep during the sermon, dreams that she plays with a stranger for all her money and



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jewels; that losing these, she stakes her three lovely children; and the stranger bears these off at last, discovering himself by a cloven foot and a strong smell of brimstone—the latter proving “only a bottle of spirits, which a good old lady applied to her nose to put her in a condition of hearing the preacher’s third head, concerning time.” The best instances of these self-created dreams are given in the experiments of M. Maury:—

1. His lips and nose were tickled by his coadjutor with a feather. He dreamed that he was subjected to horrible tortures; that a pitch-plaster was applied to his face, which was then roughly withdrawn, denuding the lips and cheeks.

2. A pair of tweezers were struck close to his ears by scissors. He dreamed that he heard the ringing of bells, which speedily passed into the tocsin, and suggested June, 1848.

3. He was made to smell Eau de Cologne. He dreamed that he was in the shop of a perfumer, which led the fancy to the East, and to the shop of Jean Farina, in Cairo!

4. He was made to feel the heat and smell of a burning match, and the wind at the time whistled through the shutters. He dreamed that he was at sea, and that the powder-room of the vessel blew up.

5. His neck was slightly pinched. He dreamed that a blister was applied; and then there arose the recollection of a physician who had treated him in youth.

6. A piece of red-hot iron was held close to his face for such a length of time as to communicate a slight heat. He dreamed of bandits who got into houses and applied hot irons to the feet of the inhabitants, in order to extract money from them. This idea suggested that of the Duchess d’Abrantes, who he conceived had chosen him as secretary, in whose memoirs he had read of chauffeurs, or bandits, who burned people.

7. The word “parafaramus” was pronounced close to his ear. He heard nothing; but on a repetition of the attempt while in bed, the word “maman” was followed only by a dream of the hum of bees. When the experiment was repeated some days subsequently, and when he was falling asleep, he dreamed of two or three words, “Azor, Castor, Leonore,” which were attributed to the interlocutors in his dream. The sound of “chanelle, haridelle,” awoke him while pronouncing the words “c’est elle,” but without any recollection of the idea attached to the expression.

8. A drop of water falling on the brow suggested a dream of Italy, great thirst, and a draught of orvietto.

9. A light, surrounded by a red paper, was repeatedly passed before his eyes. He dreamed of a storm of lightning, which reproduced a violent tempest which he had encountered between Morlaix and Havre.

But even when there are no such illusions, the difficulty of interpreting dreams remains. Mr. Seafeld gives us several solutions from Greek, and Persian, and Mussulman sources. We will content ourselves with one extract from this curious chapter:—

Resurrection-men should be careful to whom they relate their dreams. “What answer,” said a stranger to the son of Sirin, “shall I convey to a man who has dreamed that he broke some eggs, and took out the white, and left the yolk in the shells?”—“Tell him to come and consult me in person,” replied the oneirocritic. It was in vain that the same message was often repeated; the son of Sirin refused all answer, till the messenger avowed that himself was the dreamer, and confirmed the statement by an oath. “Seize that man and bear him before the Cadi, for he disinters and robs the dead,” was the declaration which immediately overwhelmed him with terror and astonishment.

One of the most remarkable phenomena connected with dreams is the shortness of time needed for their consummation. Lord Brougham says that in dictating a man may frequently fall asleep after uttering a few words, and be awakened by the amanuensis repeating the last word to show he has written the whole; but, though five or six seconds only have elapsed between the delivery of the sentence and its transfer to paper, the sleeper may have passed through a dream extending through half a lifetime. Lord Holland and Mr. Babbage both confirm this theory. The one was listening to a friend reading aloud, and slept from the be-

ginning of one sentence to the latter part of the sentence immediately succeeding; yet during this time he had a dream, the particulars of which would have taken more than a quarter of an hour to write. Mr. Babbage dreamt a succession of events, and woke in time to hear the concluding words of a friend’s answer to a question he had just put him. One man was liable to feelings of suffocation, accompanied by a dream of a skeleton grasping his throat, whenever he slept in a lying posture, and had an attendant to wake him the moment he sank down. But though awakened, the moment he began to sink, that time sufficed for a long struggle with the skeleton. Another man dreamt that he crossed the Atlantic, spent a fortnight in America, and fell overboard when embarking to return; yet his sleep had not lasted more than ten minutes.

But we might extract for ever from such a compilation. In fact, it is impossible to enter into a tenth part of the materials contained in Mr. Seafeld’s book, or of the thoughts suggested by it.

## LA BELLE-JENNY.

*La Belle-Jenny.* Par Théophile Gautier. (Dulau & Co.)

THE books of M. Théophile Gautier are always worth reading, if only for the quaint and vigorous old French that he delights in. To the giddy he may appear dull. His archaisms, and that solid style which has made the critics compare his pen to a chisel, repel readers who must run when they read. But for the attentive and patient, his works are a study that brings its own reward. “Le Capitaine Tracasse” was found fatiguing, because the adventures of the hero, though various, were ludicrously improbable, and were spun into a narrative two volumes long. In “La Belle-Jenny,” whatever violence may be done to probability, the sin of prolixity has certainly been avoided. This half-crown volume of three hundred and fifty pages is stuffed with strange incidents and marvellous adventures enough to furnish at least three of our ordinary circulating library novels. The foundation of the story is the assumed existence in England, in 1821, of a secret society that has hitherto escaped the observation of Englishmen. This society was formed of a certain number of young men of talent and courage, united by college friendships, by chance meetings, and a “certain audacious conformity of thought.” Many among them were rich, others powerful; some were great poets (Byron was one of the junta), others profound politicians. The head-quarters of the society were in London. Weary of the ordinary pleasures and occupations of the world, these astonishing young men sought a new object for their activity, and found it in—the victory of the will of man over destiny! Bound by the most awful oath to serve the cause with all that they had and all that they were, this secret tribunal set about readjusting the order of events, and mending the ways of Providence. The insurrection of India against England; the elevation of Napoleon to a throne in Delhi or Calcutta, whence he was to march on Europe; the emancipation of Spain; the liberation of Greece, were schemes that they originated. Thus did they mean to set their human will against the Divine will, in a sort of Titanic struggle. Fortunately for the nerves of his readers, M. Gautier, like our Mr. Disraeli, is on the side of the divine powers, and the tremendous rebels, the conspirators, when they reach the end of all their machinations and daring sacrifices, are made to feel that the game is won by “the invisible player;” that their best plans are defeated “by the little breath, which is perhaps nought else but the spirit of God.” The last passage is perhaps made purposely obscure, for it does not say how and when the “little breath” comes. The effect produced upon the fortunes of the *dramatis personæ* by the requirements of the formidable society is truly astounding. At the beginning of the story, two couples of

high rank, and unacquainted with each other, are to be married about the same time, in the same church in London. Destiny has decreed that there shall be an exchange of partners, and avails itself of the Secret Society for that purpose. The two bridegrooms are members of the society, and had no right to dispose of their own persons in marriage without the consent of the tribunal. The one, Sir Benedict Arundell, is snatched away at the church door by a band of ruffians, and conveyed through a subterranean passage into the Thames, and on board a ship called *La Belle-Jenny*, which carries him to St. Helena. His desolate bride mourns for him a year. The other bridegroom, by name Volmerange, receives at the church door a packet of letters revealing facts of a very disagreeable nature, that compel him at night time, and in a quiet way, to drop his lovely wife over Blackfriars Bridge, into the Thames. Luckily for her, the boatmen conveying Arundell a prisoner rescue her, and his mysterious captor, Sir Arthur Sidney, orders Edith, the bride, also to be conveyed to St. Helena. Sidney, backed by the junta, has been working with immense enthusiasm at a plan for rescuing “Prometheus from his rock,” and “washing the honour of England clean of the stain of having assassinated her guest.” To serve their master’s purpose, and hold communication with the Emperor, Arundell and Edith are obliged to live near Longwood as Mr. and Mrs. Smith, the former still deeply in love with his forlorn Amabel, the latter more enamoured than ever of her hot-tempered husband, Volmerange. By degrees, however, and by dint of oft-repeating their woes to one another, Edith and Arundell forget those they’ve left behind them, and fall mutually in love. Meanwhile, on the 4th May, 1821, Sidney has completed his wonderful preparations. Everything is ready for the escape of Napoleon, when destiny takes him out of the world. Sidney is in despair, the idea on which he had lived so long, and around which he had built a splendid scheme for the glory of manhood, collapsed, and his whole nature fell into ruin. So strong of purpose had he been, that when some trivial accident seemed ready to come between him and his wishes, he exclaimed, “If Chance had a will, mine would conquer it.” At that trying moment Destiny had a narrow escape from defeat. But now Sidney is conquered, and confesses that “other hands than our’s hold the threads of events, and what seems unjust to us may be supreme equity.” Idea, sentiment, will, all have fled, and he tells Edith to find a motive for living in loving something, “a man, a child, a dog, or flower; but not an idea—that is too dangerous.”

Edith decides in favour of a man, and returns to England with Arundell, bound in honour to ascertain, first of all, if her husband will have her back again. That gentleman, meanwhile, has gone through the most extraordinary adventures. After being hounded in the Regent’s Park, he is carried in a state of insensibility into the magnificent dwelling of a strange old Brahmin, who lives near. There, on coming to his senses, he is inveigled by a lovely Indian princess into an expedition to Hindostan, where he takes command of the Mahrattas in a rebellion against the English. The red-coats, however, surprise the camp of the insurgents, the princess is killed, and Volmerange escapes on a fleet horse. In this part of the story the author of “Sacountala” luxuriates in the theatrical display of Indian magnificence and beauty. Volmerange gets back to England, and makes the acquaintance of Amabel, from whose mind he soon erases the recollection of her first love. Edith, however, immediately on her return to England, calls to see her husband, and the apparition of her face as she lifts her veil turns his brain. The same evening, Amabel, while waiting for Volmerange, burns Arundell’s love letters; the flame catches her ball-dress, and Sir Benedict enters the room only just in time to witness the dying agonies of his bride of a year ago. Finally, Benedict and Edith



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settle on an island in the Mediterranean as real man and wife.

We think this sample of what a sober French writer of reputation can do in the way of a sensation novel ought to make some of our own writers reflect and pause as they rush along the road that leads to absurdity. M. Gautier's mistakes on the subject of English habits and customs are not greater than those generally made by French writers. His profane, idolatrous language concerning the First Napoleon is rendered all the more ridiculous just now by reading, in Miss Berry's newly-published journals, an account of Bonaparte and the two soldiers running away from the 500 on the 18th Brumaire.

## MARIAN ROOKE.

*Marian Rooke; or, the Quest for Fortune.* By Henry Sedley. (Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.)

MARIAN ROOKE is, we are told on the title-page, a tale of the younger world. The description is a correct one, for not only is the scene laid in the New World, but the personages introduced and the events narrated could only have occurred across the Atlantic. It is this fact which gives the novel something of a value not awarded to ordinary works of fiction. It is not a good novel, nor a particularly amusing one, as a work of fiction. But anybody who wants to understand American life and thought may gain something worth learning from the perusal of "Marian Rooke." We say this not because Mr. Sedley has any faculty of reproducing types of Yankee character like that possessed by Hawthorne, and Wendell Holmes, and Mrs. Beecher Stowe. His estimate of the American, and especially the New England character, is not a high one; and he dwells upon the faults and follies of his countrymen with a frankness which must appear astonishing to those who believe Americans to exist only in an atmosphere of self-laudation. The book is curious, chiefly from the fact that, as we presume from internal evidence, it has been written by an American, or one whose lot has been thrown in America, for Americans. To illustrate what we mean, we may say that any American would learn a good deal about England from studying Mr. Kingsley's novels—from seeing what thoughts, and ideas, and aspirations he presented to his countrymen. And in the same way, though Mr. Sedley is not to be mentioned in the same class for descriptive talent with the author of "Alton Locke," he may serve a similar purpose for English students of the American mind.

The story of "Marian Rooke" is by no means an intricate one. The hero, Hugh Gifford, is the son of an English gentleman, who had emigrated to New England, formed a marriage there which turned out unhappily, was an unsuccessful man through life, and died leaving his only son with very scanty means. The lad, after studying unsuccessfully at the bar, and having fallen in love with the daughter of a New England farmer, goes to California at the time of the gold discoveries, to earn the fortune which is to secure him the hand of his promised bride. He joins a party of Western squatters at St. Louis, and makes the journey with them across the Rocky Mountains. The adventures of the party on the prairie, and their fortunes in California, are told with considerable vividness, and the sketches of the mines and of San Francisco are interesting, as records of a strange and little-known country. But it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that Mr. Sedley has been in the gold diggings himself, and that his Californian reminiscences are introduced in order to swell out the requisite three volumes. Indeed, the art of making the background harmonize with the figures is totally wanting in the pages of "Marian Rooke."

The young lady whose name gives the title to the book is, of course, the heroine. The daughter of an opulent Louisiana planter by a quadroon slave, she had been brought up as his legitimate daughter, without the

slightest suspicion of her origin. Her father is killed in a duel, without having time to make a will; and, finding herself liable to be sold as a slave by the heir-at-law, she runs away, escapes to Missouri, and joins the party of emigrants of which Gifford is a member. Of course, as the least experienced novel-reader can foresee, the two fall in love with each other; but the hero's first engagement hinders him from following the dictates of his heart. The digging speculation turns out not over well for some time, and Miss Rooke leaves California to become governess in a family in the Eastern States, and shortly after the separation Gifford, through the help of a half-witted lad who is attached to the party, strikes a vein of gold, and secures as much as he desired. He leaves California, goes back to his old love, pretending to be as poor as when he left New England, and is jilted in consequence by the young lady, who had been raised in too money-loving a school to marry an unsuccessful man. After travelling in Europe, he meets once more with Marian Rooke, as a free man, and offers her his hand. But the lady, indignant at the deception he had practised on his first love, insists on testing his attachment by waiting for a year before she accepts or refuses his hand. Gifford is hurt at her apparent coldness, goes into fashionable New York society, becomes a man of fashion, and finally is carried away by the general passion for the almighty dollar, and becomes a speculator for the mere pleasure of making money, not from any want of sense that he possessed already. For a time he is eminently successful; then fortune turns, and he loses everything, and returns to California, where he is followed by Marian Rooke, who accepts him now that he is poor, and cured of his money worship. The course of true love runs smooth at last, and everything ends happily, as it ought to do.

So much for the outline of the story, which, scant as it is, is filled in with sketches of New England life, San Francisco gambling-houses, New York society, and Washington politicians, not devoid of a certain talent, but yet all of them caricatures rather than pictures. Hugh Gifford is the one character whom the author has succeeded in presenting to us as a living personage; as the lady herself is one of those personages who can only be described vaguely in superlatives of excellence. But the hero himself is really something of a representative man:—

He saw and felt early that to make any figure in the world he must first get money. That to get it he must meet and grapple with cunning and unscrupulous men, and perhaps become as cunning and unscrupulous as they. Where there was only one object of ambition, and the means universally regarded as indifferent, provided the end were attained, it seemed clear that no one could reach that end and hope to preserve clean hands and an unsullied conscience. The case was simplicity itself. It was running a race in a narrow, filthy avenue, with crowds of dirty competitors, and mountains of mud and slime to struggle through; yet there was nothing else to be done—there was no cleaner road, no selecter companions: it was this or nothing. The conclusion was revolting enough, but there was no help for it.

This passage is the key to the whole story. Mr. Sedley understands what persons who have not been in America very rarely do understand, the true nature of dollar worship. It is not that the Yankee nature is a greedy, or still less a parsimonious one, but that, where there are few social distinctions, and where the lines of demarcation between different classes are not greatly marked, and where till lately there was unbroken prosperity, the only way open to any man to distinguish himself was to make money. And Mr. Sedley's object, if we understand his book rightly, is to show how this universal desire to get rich injures and degrades minds capable of higher aspirations. In England, a man like Gifford, with good education, good family, and good talents, would have gone into some of the

learned professions, and with decent luck would have made his way; and even if he had failed to do so, he would not have been liable to the feeling that he was despised by men inferior to himself in rank and culture. But being born in America, he was forced almost inevitably to take to commercial pursuits, and so was carried away into the whirlpool of money-grubbing.

That Hugh Gifford may be a true specimen of a young and refined American whose circumstances will not permit him to live without engaging in business, is a fact which no one acquainted with the country can doubt. In the Old World, a high-spirited and ambitious young man does not dream of making money in his hot youth; that desire, if it comes at all, comes later in life with us. But in America, before the war, a man like Hugh Gifford could not well see any career open before him except that of trade, and his nature would be sure to suffer from the circumstance. Thus, at the earliest stage of the reader's acquaintance with him, Gifford is represented as a man of very doubtful integrity. In the author's words—

When I began to know the man—I mean, when I penetrated the first crust of his reserve, and caught glimpses of his real character—I doubted whether the good or the bad most predominated. It was a singular trait with him at that time to deal with people much in their own coin. I have known him to get the better of unprincipled sharpers; to turn the tables upon them when they laid their deepest schemes to circumvent him, and positively to fleece them in turn. This surely was not right. It was what he could never have done had Marian Rooke stood near, watching his course with her calm, earnest eyes. But, on the other hand, if Hugh had to deal with a man of honour—with a person of plain, guileless integrity—there could be no juster judge, no more trustworthy friend. If he alone had had to deal with him, I doubt not Hugh would have even got the better of Mr. Pangburn; albeit it had been a marvellous encounter, and opinions might well waver as to its issue. But had he to deal with Seth Armstrong, or with his son Luke, you might adventure worlds that if there were an advantage, Hugh would cast it against himself.

It followed that tricky and dishonest people—and there were abundance of such in those early Californian days—were apt, on coming into contact with our hero, to hail him as one of their own order; and that upright, simple, and straightforward people—of whom there were unhappily but few—would put in a similar claim. Each class was equally sincere—equally right and equally wrong; but a comparison of their relative numbers would augur unfavourably for Hugh's reputation.

Gradually, as the reader will learn, the sordid element in his nature is eliminated by contact with the higher and finer character of Marian Rooke.

Oddly enough in a book published at this time about America, there is scarcely any allusion to the late war; and so far as the author's sympathies are expressed at all, they would seem to be with the South. Indeed, the one clear political characteristic throughout the work is a prejudice against New England, of which Gifford is the exponent:—

I was the son of an Englishman, and few transplanted trees will thrive. From my earliest youth I found, irrespective of human beings and their peculiarities, much to displease me and rouse my aversion in surrounding objects and in natural vicissitudes. I disliked the burning heat of the summers, and the piercing, dismal cold of the winters. I disliked the square, white-painted wooden houses which covered the hill sides and villages, with the treeless wastes which surrounded, and the mathematically straight roads which led to them. I disliked the unmeaning, fragile meeting-houses, with their monotonous spires, their canting preachers, and the innumerable and indescribable sectarians, their congregations. I yearned for the soft, moist-tempered clime of the olden home, with its winding green lanes, its masses of comfortable foliage, its stout-built little cottages all covered with thatch and running vines, its dear crumbling old churches, all reverend and grey with time, and rich with stores of ivy which had taken so long to grow. Was there necessarily an inseparable bond between unlimited freedom



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and unlimited ugliness? Must forest trees always be destroyed in republics, and where universal suffrage is must the streets of cities be like chess-boards?

Passages like these abound through "Marian Rooke;" they must be partly taken in conjunction with other passages, in which the author does fuller justice to the great characteristics of the Puritan States; but his heart is obviously with the West and South, not with the Eastern seaboard.

E. D.

## NEW NOVELS.

*Guy Deverell.* By F. Sheridan Le Fanu. Three Vols. (R. Bentley.)

MR. LE FANU'S name is not to be found in Messrs. Routledge's new edition of "Men of the Time: a Dictionary of Eminent Living Characters of both Sexes," which consists of 860 pages, closely printed in double columns. Not that such an omission matters much, where the name is really that of an eminent person, for the compiler appears never to have heard of Renan, Taine, or Herbert Spencer; and such books are chiefly valuable as furnishing the names of those who hang on great men's skirts of whom no other record exists. The object in searching there for that of Mr. Le Fanu was to ascertain at what period the author of "Uncle Silas" made his first appearance as a novelist.

We believe that Mr. Le Fanu was first introduced to the public in the pages of the *Dublin University Magazine*, in which appeared in monthly instalments "The House by the Churchyard," afterwards published, in 1863, by Messrs. Tinsley Brothers, in three volumes. Though by no means a high class novel, that tale of Irish life gave promise of something better for the future; for nothing can be more natural and life-like than Chapelizod, its garrison and inhabitants; the very language, too, if not equal to Carleton's, had the true ring and smack about it. But as the tale progresses, the interest ceases, and all ends in confusion.

Mr. Le Fanu's second novel was "Wylder's Hand," which was followed at the close of last year by "Uncle Silas," both of which were noticed at considerable length in our second January number of the present year. What was there stated can only be repeated now. Mr. Le Fanu is an eminently disappointing author. In "The House by the Churchyard," he came out well in what we may call "scenery and decorations;" in "Wylder's Hand," he proved that he could invent and tell a good story; in "Uncle Silas," he sketched one figure, at least, with great power; for in the character of Millicent he shows that he does not want for sympathy with pleasant and innocent human nature; whilst in his present tale, by over-indulging his appetite for the monstrous and horrible, he tires his reader, and destroys the interest of the story, even before the perusal of the first volume has been accomplished. "Guy Deverell" has been served up in monthly slices to the readers of the *Dublin University Magazine*. As a separate slice, each had to be seasoned to suit the palate of the reader; as a whole, too much of the monstrous and horrible has spoiled the dish.

Sir Jekyl Marlowe, "a man of many thousand acres, and member for the county," accidentally meets with two strange gentlemen at a road-side inn. The younger one so strongly reminds him of a dead relative that he hurries after them to a ruined abbey near by, which they had gone to see:—

I'll see this fellow face to face, and talk a bit with him. I dare say, if one were near, he's not at all so like. It is devilish odd though; twenty-five years and not a relation on earth—and dead—hang him! Egad, its like the Wandering Jew, and the what do you call 'em, *vite*.

Having, after some difficulty, accomplished his purpose, entered into conversation, presented his card, or "snowy parallelogram," and given the young man an invitation to

Marlowe, he asks boldly for his name in return.

"My name is Guy Strangways," said the stranger.

"O—ho—it's very odd!" exclaimed the Baronet, in a sharp snarl, quite unlike his previous talk. I think the distance between them was a little increased, and he was looking askance upon the young gentleman, who made him a very low foreign bow.

There was a silence, and just then a deep metallic voice from below called, "Guy—hollo!"

"Excuse me—just a moment," and the young man was gone. The Baronet waited.

"He'll be back," muttered Sir Jekyl, "in a minute."

But the Baronet was mistaken. He waited at that open window, whistling out upon the deepening twilight, till the edges of the ivy began to glitter in the moonbeams, and the bats to trace their zigzags in the air; and at last he gave over expecting.

He looked back into the gloomy void of that great chamber, and listened, and felt rather angry at his queer sensations. He had not turned about when the stranger withdrew, and did not know the process of his vanishing, and for the first time it struck him, "Who the plague could the fellow who called him be?"

An impression is thus at once created in the mind of Sir Jekyl of the supernatural. The next appearance of Guy Strangways and his friend is at Wardlock Church, where Lady Alice Redcliffe, the mother of Beatrix, the beautiful daughter of wicked Sir Jekyl, are in the "Redcliffe seat in the centre of the gallery."

As Lady Alice looked with her cold and steady glance over the congregation in the aisle, during the interval of silence that precedes the commencement of the service, a tall and graceful young man, with an air of semi-foreign fashion, entered the church, accompanied by an elderly gentleman, of whom she took comparatively little note.

The young man and his friend were ushered into a seat confronting the gallery. Lady Alice gazed and gazed, transfixed with astonishment and horror. The enamelled miniature on her bosom was like; but there, in that clear, melancholy face, with its large eyes and wavy hair, was a resurrection. In that animated sculpture were delicate tracings and touches of nature's chisel, which the artist had failed to represent, which even memory had neglected to fix, but which all now returned with the startling sense of identity in a moment.

She had put on her gold spectacles, as she always did on taking her seat, and opened her "Morning Service," bound in purple Russia, with its golden clasp, and long ribbons fringed with the same precious metal, with the intent to mark the proper psalms and lessons at her haughty leisure. She, therefore, saw the moving image of her dead son before her with an agonizing distinctness that told like a blight of palsy on her face.

She saw his elderly companion also distinctly. A round-shouldered man, with his short caped cloak still on. A grave man, with a large, high, bald forehead, a heavy, hooked nose, and great hanging moustache and beard. A dead and ominous face enough, except for the piercing glance of his full eyes, under very thick brows, and just the one you would have chosen out of a thousand portraits, for a plotting high-priest or an old magician.

This "magician" is bent upon punishing Sir Jekyl for some wrong deed in former years, and revealing the mysteries of a dreadful "green chamber," which is said to be haunted by a devil. We have not space to give an outline of the tale, but must refer the reader to the book itself for a satisfactory elucidation of the anguish of poor Lady Alice at the apparent resuscitation of her dead son, Guy Deverell. Those who have an appetite for horrors will, no doubt, enjoy the book; but literature has claims upon Mr. Le Fanu which he should not ignore. Let him write a novel which shall not first appear piecemeal in a magazine. He has all the qualifications of a good novelist, and cannot fail, then, to produce a novel worthy of himself.

*David Chantrey.* By W. G. Wills. Three Vols. (Maxwell and Co.)

MR. WILLS has not done himself justice in his present work; and we cannot but

regret that the author of "The Wife's Evidence" should have written a novel less worthy of his pen than that to which was accorded such hearty commendation in our third number of January, 1864. There is high purpose, manly tenderness, endurance of grinding poverty, with singular simplicity and truth, in the character of David Chantrey more than sufficient to have marked him as a noble and good man, but for want of judgment he is betrayed into acts unworthy and unlikely to have resulted from one who knew the world so thoroughly from his very occupation of reporter for the press. Millicent Blenheim is a pretty picture of a gay, spoilt young lassie, who has reached some five-and-twenty years without making up her mind to marry; and Emma Wortley, in her gentle kindness to David's afflicted little sister, is another pretty sketch. In such sketches lies Mr. Wills's strength, and we would urge him not to step aside into those devious tracts into which in his present story he has too ambitiously wandered. However, David Chantrey is superior to many circulating library novels of the day, and will be sure to satisfy that class of readers to whom a well-written tale is always an acceptable novelty.

## RUSSIA.

*The Progress of Science, Art, and Literature in Russia.* By F. R. Grahame. (James Blackwood & Co.)

*Handbook for Travellers in Russia, Poland, and Finland.* New Edition, Revised. By T. Michell. (Murray.)

THE progress of Russia in territorial conquest was a few years ago the bugbear of Europe. The progress hinted at in one of the books before us is what every civilized man must heartily desire. We cannot admit that the Russians as a nation have as yet gone very far up the steep ascents either of learning or invention. Their quick apprehension and strong faculty of imitation have obtained for them the superficial accomplishments and engaging manners which are so successfully displayed when they come among us. But as yet the native Russians have exhibited no originality of thought—no inventive power. Peter the Great, whose hasty reforms were not altogether beneficial, was led on by the Swiss—Lefort. The next great sovereign of Russia, Catherine II., was a German princess, as was also the mother of Alexander and Nicholas and the mother of the present Czar. The Russian nation for the last century—the period of its most rapid growth—has, in fact, been a pliant mass in the hands of foreign rulers. Science, literature, and art have been invited from all quarters of the civilized world to St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Odessa, and have been treated with magnificent hospitality, but they have as yet failed to leaven the nation. The academicians of St. Petersburg betray in their names a German or French origin—witness Baer, Struve, Jacobi. The natives eminent in art and science may be counted on a man's fingers—Glinka, the musician, Ivanoff and Bruloff, the painters (though the latter was son of a Frenchman), one good mathematician, Ostrogradsky, and one great surgeon, Piragoff. In literature Russia has hardly passed the early stage of development which may be called the translation age. As the brilliant period of English literature in the reign of Queen Elizabeth was preceded by the labours of Sir John Cheke and others in the classical languages, and by numerous translations from the Greek, Latin, Italian, and French, so Germany, before Lessing, and Russia up to a recent date, have been fed intellectually upon translations of English, French, and German writings. Not only are Shakespeare's plays read and acted in the Russian language, and the poems of Byron and novels of Scott widely diffused through the empire of the Czar, but the works of our principal living authors appear in Russian translations soon after



their publication in the original. The grave as well as the gay are ushered, in that strange garb, the Russian printed character, into the presence of this semi-oriental people—Bulwer and Buckle, Thackeray and Mill, Dickens and Macaulay, are made familiar names to Russian readers, not to mention French and German writers. Nor is it the worst nourishment a young and impressionable people can receive. When we consider the suddenness of the change from dark to light that has been accomplished among the Russian people by railroads, by the electric telegraph, by a tolerably free press, and by the emancipation of the serfs, we cannot wonder that their first intellectual efforts should be imitative. The efforts were made indeed by their able men before this full swing of liberty had been secured. Poushkin, who still stands first among Russian poets, was a follower of Byron; Gogol, the most delightful of their novelists, was stimulated by the perusal of Dickens's earlier works.

This is not the place for an elaborate analysis of the products of Russian literary genius. We should have been glad to send our readers to Mr. Grahame's volume for the information we have no room to give, but we are obliged to say that the book is disappointing. No leading idea runs through the work, which, nevertheless, to judge from the number of references given, must have cost considerable labour. In ten closely-packed, ill-arranged chapters there are bits of history, ecclesiastical and secular, notices of bishops, archimandrites, and metropolitans, huddled together with the hackneyed stories of Peter III.'s deposition and the revolt of the military on the accession of Nicholas. Long quotations from so common a book as the Princess Dashkoff's memoirs occupy an undue amount of space, while Clarke's Travels, the works of Mr. Sutherland Edwards, and others, are laid under contribution. The three chapters which seem to answer to the title of the book contain dry lists of writers in prose and poetry, the names of their works, and a few specimens from old translations by Sir John Bowring and others. Except where he has fished an extract out of an antiquated number of the *Foreign Quarterly Review*, Mr. Grahame gives no appreciative criticism of any of these writers. The work winds up with another ecclesiastical chapter made up from Dean Stanley, Dr. Neale, and M. Mouravieff. As a compilation the book would not be without value, were the matter contained in it well-arranged and well-indexed. But even this small merit is wanting. There is a table of contents at the beginning, and a list of names at the end, but neither the one nor the other is arranged alphabetically, nor refers to the pages of the work. There are degrees of demerit even in bookmaking.

In striking contrast to Mr. Grahame's indigested compilation is the smart, compact, and intelligible "Handbook" of which Mr. Murray has published a new edition, revised by Mr. T. Michell, Attaché to the English Embassy at St. Petersburg. The work is indeed for the most part re-written, and Mr. Michell, born at Cronstadt, and educated at St. Petersburg, may fairly claim that confidence in the knowledge of his subject which is due to an intelligent observer, who, though still young, has passed "many years in Russia." We believe the only lengthened break in Mr. Michell's residence among the Russians was during the Crimean war, when he came to England, was at hand just when an interpreter to the Russian prisoners was wanted at Lewes, and received the appointment. It may be taken as a measure of the advance that Russia has made in the last ten years, when a writer well qualified by experience and habits of thought affirms that the previous edition of this very handbook has become obsolete in that short space of time, owing to the change that has taken place in the country, in every department of life, public and private. The vexations of the custom-house, the rigid system of passports, the odious espionage, and the censorship of a traveller's little stock of books, have

practically disappeared. A traveller, says Mr. Michell, "may converse on politics as freely as in his own country, and study the social conditions of the empire in all its interesting phases of transition, without let or hindrance, and without any fear of the liabilities described by writers on Russia ten years ago." Railways properly take the leading place in a handbook for travellers, and a moment's consideration of the enormous size and the peculiar configuration of Russia will show the incalculable effects of this modern discovery upon the future of that country.

Apart from the five million square miles of Siberia, European Russia spreads itself out in one vast plain nearly two million square miles in extent. With scarcely one hill between the Baltic and the Black Sea, between the Vistula and the Oural Mountains, with boundless forests of timber, wherewith to bridge marshes and rivers, it would seem that nature pointed out this country as the great field for easy railway communication. When we know that the fertile region of the black earth teems with products that can reach no market for lack of conveyance, that thousands of herds of cattle trample the illimitable pastures of the steppes, and are slaughtered for their hides and fat, while their flesh is thrown away, we cannot but look eagerly forward to the day when the whole of that fertile country shall be brought under the dominion of the locomotive, and nearer to our famishing markets. Mr. Michell speaks of the adoption, by the Russian Government, of a liberal tariff as "obviously impending." We sincerely hope he speaks with the authority of a member of the Embassy, and that steps towards that most desirable consummation have already been made. If Mr. Hutt does not despair of bringing Austria to a liberal commercial policy, we may surely have some confidence that the Government of Russia, ever on the watch for novelties, and ambitious to excel, will not be behind hand. When the victory over protective duties is achieved we shall say, with Mr. Michell, "that the complete intersection of the empire by railroads will attract, in addition to the travellers for pleasure and instruction, numerous commercial and financial agents, who will eagerly seek their profit in developing the resources of such a new and fertile country," and that intercourse of this kind will be to "the immeasurable advantage of the agricultural interest of the one country, and the manufacturing industry of the other."

The historical notice at the beginning of the work is clear, succinct, and adequate to its purpose. In the reign of Alexander II. the manumission of the serfs has been the most important event of contemporary European history. The final decree that attached the peasantry to the soil was issued in 1597. In 1861 the serfs, amounting to twenty-three millions of souls, acquired personal liberty and civil rights. To these important privileges were added the substantial advantages of a perpetual right to the dwelling and land they occupied at the time of their emancipation. "The compulsory appropriation to each peasant varies from a minimum of one dessiatin (2½ acres) to a maximum of twelve dessiatins in the steppe districts. In the central parts of Russia the extent of the allotments is, on the average, about ten acres to each peasant. Beyond this, the enfranchised serf is permitted to acquire additional land on terms of mutual agreement with the landed proprietors. The Government advances the purchase money to the peasant by the issue of redemption bonds, bearing five per cent. interest, which sums are refunded by a series of payments extending over a certain number of years." The redemption bonds being on Government security, grow more valuable every year, although at the first issue the enormity of the amount (300 millions of roubles) depreciated them as a marketable commodity.

In this way, at the expense of the landowners or nobility, a new order of society is created in Russia, corresponding in many

respects to the yeomen of England, and it is not difficult to foresee that with them will rest the future destiny of Russia. In so vast a territory, where towns are sparse and thinly populated, the influence and power of the nation, considered apart from the Crown, will rest mainly with the rural population. The principle of self-government is already implanted in the communes. During the recent transfer of property from lord to peasant the simple action of an unpaid magistrate, styled "arbitrator of the peace," has sufficed to regulate disputes between the parties as to the value of the land, &c., with little or no disturbance of the general harmony of the State. Russia is only beginning her great career, and her real progress in all the arts of civilization may fairly date from the accession of Alexander II.

For all the ordinary purposes of a handbook for travellers this of Russia is as correct, impartial, and generally useful as the rest of Mr. Murray's series, and higher praise hardly can be given.

## THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW.

The *Westminster Review* is very bold on Mr. Lecky's "Rationalism in Europe." The features of his portrait of St. Augustine are made still darker, and, we fear, not without justice. That saint lived in very palmy days for the faith he eventually embraced. He saw Rome fall, and Christianity everywhere triumphant. Yet he was quite unsoftened by prosperity. He gave science and all independence of thought many a deadly blow. His high position as one of the great framers of much of the orthodoxy of the Latin Churches has prevented justice being done to him before; but the present is a great time for destroying ecclesiastical reputations, and we doubt if Augustine will occupy so high a place in history after the vigorous handling of Mr. Lecky. His book is said to be a severe attack upon "the traditional faith of the Middle Ages and of our own. The Dean of St. Paul's is more cautious, as well as more earnest, when he assumes that only the primal and indefeasible truths of Christianity shall not pass away; but that his assertion should not have been indignantly disclaimed by the adherents of all authoritative systems is among the most astonishing phenomena of the day." The "Capacities of Women" are highly appreciated. Woman, as all must admit, has never been properly developed. What she can do the future must show us. Meanwhile, it is well to collect the facts, and suspend our judgment as to the necessary inferiority of the sex. As in almost every other periodical, there is a long and interesting article on "Palgrave's Arabia." Lady Duff Gordon's "Letters from Egypt" may well be compared with those of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu. Both saw naturally much more of the interior of Eastern life than any male European can hope to do.

## THE FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW.

The *Fortnightly Review* commences with a "Bibliography of Tennyson," by Mr. Leicester Warren. The improvement in the Laureate's verse is carefully traced through all his various productions, some of which perhaps himself would rather wish forgotten. The additions to his larger poems, in their successive editions, are noted up; and two stanzas from "My Life is full of weary days," which date from 1832, are deservedly brought within reach of a fresh class of readers. Mr. Thomas Hare, in a very short paper on "Electoral Reform," announces his intention of suggesting for discussion, at the ensuing Social Science Meeting at Sheffield, a modified and experimental scheme, adapted to the use of such electors only as desire the improvement, and voluntarily accept it. It is this, that any voter be allowed to withdraw his name from the register of his particular constituency, and transfer it to the register of a general electoral college; and that every number of voters of such college, being equal to 1-658th part of the entire number of voters on all the registers in the kingdom, shall be entitled to elect one member. He illustrates the working of this plan by supposing that 100,000 voters transfer their names to the register of this electoral college. It is not proposed to increase the number of the members of the House of Commons; but the necessary disfranchisement would be effected very slowly. The plan seems feasible, and is well worth considering. The question between "The Bishops and Clerical Subscription" is discussed by Mr. Haughton



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with a strong conviction that the new Act, if properly worked, will be a panacea for many of the evils of the Church. "Everything wants enlargement. This movement is a cry for a gospel which shall realize the universal and eternal Fatherhood of God, and which shall not confine it to a few, nor shut up its mercies within arbitrary limits of time and space." Mr. Trollope has an article on "Public Schools," in which he combats the fallacy that adequate men cannot be had as teachers for less incomes than are now given to them. There can be no doubt that just as good men, and older men, too, which is still more important, could be obtained, both for Eton and for Harrow, for about one-half the income at which those posts are now estimated. Lastly, Mr. Call gives us a most interesting estimate of "Apollonius of Tyana," and his life by Philostratus. He is quite right in saying that "the romantic biography of the Greek sophist is not a hostile parody of the life of Christ, but an idealized history of a Pagan prophet, whom an admiring co-religionist would willingly have placed on the same line with the last great Hebrew prophet." He attempted to reanimate and purify the old religion. He was an unconscious counterpart of Christ. But his reform was too late; it failed, like that of Julian, and only rendered the triumph of the higher spiritual force more rapid and more complete.

## THE MAGAZINES.

The great feature in *Blackwood* is the second part of Von Boreke's "Memoirs of the Confederate War for Independence." We have the account of the seven days' fighting before Richmond, which ended in the retreat of McClellan to the James River, with a loss of 16,500 men, besides prisoners. Had the Confederate generals co-operated properly with Lee, the loss would have been still greater. Major Von Boreke was soon sent again to the front, and started with General Stuart in the train for Gordonsville. Himself with his staff occupied the tender, and the whole party arrived covered with soot. This did not much matter, as they were bound for Jackson's camp, and "the great Stonewall bestowed but little attention on the comforts of life; but he was so much the pet of the people, that all the planters and farmers in whose neighbourhood he erected his simple tent vied with each other in supplying him abundantly with the delicacies of the table." On the 20th August, 1862, Lee crossed the Rapidan, and that evening Von Boreke "had a happy feeling when riding out of the battle, and wiping the blood from his sword on his horse's mane. The whole had been a genuine cavalry fight, with sabres crossing and single combat—incidents that very rarely occur in modern warfare—reminding one very much of the battle-pieces of the Dutch painter, Wouvermans." Fighting went on regularly every day till the 30th August, when the two great armies of 50,000 or 60,000 each met at Manassas, or Groveton. It commenced about three in the afternoon, by an attempt of the Yankees to pierce the Confederate centre. Fifteen thousand men advanced across the space between in beautiful order. They were met by the discharge of forty pieces of artillery and a perfect sheet of fire from a triple line of infantry. Thrice they renewed the assault, and then fled in total disorder. The pursuit continued for two miles, slightly checked at the heights of Groveton, and then, as they were carried, on again to Bull Run and Centreville. "The Yankee troops were totally demoralized, and lost all confidence in their commanding general; and the Government at Washington, not less than the whole people of the North, looked with the greatest terror and anxiety into the future." We take leave of Von Boreke just as he is about to invade Maryland, "after three weeks of continuous hard fighting." Mr. O'Neil, an eye-witness, gives his account of the Atlantic Cable expedition—a subject in which the interest is by no means as yet exhausted.

*Fraser's Magazine* has an interesting "Chapter on Pai Marire, the New Religion of the Maories." About the end of last year this superstition sprung up among the natives of Taranaki. An English officer was decapitated and eaten. This, it seems, was one of the initiatory rites of the new religion, whose founder was Te Ua. Like other prophets, he was somewhat insane, or, perhaps, because he was insane, came to be regarded as a prophet. His creed seems to have been taken from the Old Testament. God had chosen the Maories also as His special people. They and the Jews were to dwell together as one people.

Like the Brothers Davenport, he performed the miracle of slipping away from the knots of a strong rope, assisted by his patron saint, the Angel Gabriel. Christianity seems to affect these savages in a very strange way. The policy of translating the Scriptures into their language may well be doubted, if it is to lead to theocratic rebellions, and such tragedies as those of Völkner. There is a very smart little paper, by A. K. H. B., on "The Organ in Scotland," commencing with an account of the first Sunday service in Scotland at which the writer ever heard an organ. It forms a curious contrast to the Sunday service at which Guy Mannering attended, and Dr. Robertson was to have preached. A namesake of his, now departed also, was one of the earliest Scotch ministers who took liberal views on this point. But the General Assembly has decided that the power of permitting or refusing the use of an organ by any congregation lies with the Presbytery of the bounds. It is satisfactory to think that, whenever satisfactory evidence of the congregation's wish has been produced, the permission of the Presbytery has always followed. The three styles of William Henry Hunt, water-colour painter, are indicated and criticized by a friendly hand. Hunt neglected in his later years the figure-painting in humorous and pathetic subjects. The reason seems to have been entirely a mercenary one. Flower and fruit pieces paid much better.

The *Cornhill* continues "Wives and Daughters" and "Armada." Besides, we have a sketch of Trouville-sur-Mer—one of those fashionable watering-places which have sprung up suddenly on the coast of Normandy—and a good paper, entitled "Acquitted on the Ground of Insanity."

The *Eclectic and Congregational Review* has an imitation of Southey's Colloquies, in the shape of an article headed "A Glimpse of Utopia." These sort of efforts always contain some very useful hints. But we cannot forbear transcribing some passages from "Mr. Mill's Indictment of Sir William Hamilton": "It would be well if such critics would read this volume, and while they profess to be regulated by, and to be amenable to, very much higher principles, if they could, condescend to such trifling affairs as the literary righteousness and reverential homage to honest conviction to truth, and to Him whom we call God, as are to be found in these pages." "This volume is a model of fairness, candour, and calmness, not without a pleasing glow of moral warmth and earnestness of conviction." This honest expression of opinion is most creditable, both to the author of the article and to the *Review*.

The *Month* is a more than average number. Captain de Vere makes a very amusing "Boat Voyage on the Coast of Kerry," and the "Three Sanctuaries of Casentino" are described pleasantly enough. "Sir Joshua Reynolds and Dr. Johnson" fight their battles in these pages over again, one complaining of the eternal tea-drinkings, the other of the glasses of wine which his companion indulged in.

The *Popular Science Review*, No. 17, October, 1865.—Dr. Lancaster, in an article on "Pure Water," tells a story of the cholera of 1854, which is highly instructive at the present time. "Up to August 31 not more than twenty cases had occurred in the parish of St. James, Westminster. On that night, upwards of 100 cases of cholera occurred in the neighbourhood of Broad Street, Golden Square, and more than half died. The next day the disease increased, and for four days it went on. Never was such mourning and desolation known in London since the days of the great plague. Upwards of 600 persons were killed in those five days. What could be the cause of this terrible outbreak? At first all was confusion. In the midst of the plague the late Dr. Snow accused the pump in Broad Street. It was shut up, and the plague ceased. After this event the vestry appointed a committee to investigate the subject. On that committee were Dr. Snow, Dr. King, Mr. Marshall, the Rev. Mr. Whitehead, myself, and others. We investigated the whole attack from house to house. At last the fact became only too evident that wherever the water had been drunk from the pump in Broad Street between August 31 and September 4, there cholera had been the result. The pump was afterwards examined, and it was found that the well communicated with a cesspool in an adjoining house. No evidence can be more convincing than that brought forward by this committee that the impure water of this pump was the active cause of

the outbreak of cholera." *Apropos* to this subject is another article in the same journal on "Epidemics, Past and Present." It is somewhat dry, but the statistics of fever, cholera, small-pox, &c., are interesting. "Photography and Some of its Applications," by the editor, gives a good account of some of the latest marvels in this branch of science.

The *Atlantic Monthly* for September contains an interesting "Visit to the Edgeworths," made in 1836. Mr. Edgeworth had then been dead some years. "The Edgeworths" were then Mrs. Edgeworth, his fourth wife, and Miss Edgeworth, the authoress. "She was so plain that she was never willing to sit for her portrait, and that is the reason why the public has never been made acquainted with her personal appearance." She was then engaged in writing a book to be called "Taken for Granted," but it never appears to have been published.

The *Journal of the Statistical Society of London* contains the "Country Clearing," by Sir J. Lubbock, F.R.S., the legality of which has been recently decided; the Registrar-General's Quarterly Report; and an elaborate account, by Professor Levi, of "The Economic Condition of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland."

In *Temple Bar*, "Sir Jasper's Tenant" and "David Chantrey" are brought to a conclusion, but we reserve both for a special notice. Mr. Sala stumbles upon several Imperial Highnesses as he strolls up the Calle San Francisco of Mexico. It must be very gratifying to Maximilian to think that their pensions have always been regularly paid to the sons of his predecessor, Iturbide. If he can only secure himself as good a retiring allowance when the irrepressible Yankee has annexed Mexico, he will not have crossed the Atlantic in vain.

The *St. James's Magazine* gives an account of the interior of the Charing-cross Hotel, which will save those who read the trouble of going over it. Ladies will be glad to hear that "the human being lift," or "ascending-room," will hold a party of four, with the most expansive crinolines possible. If the "attics" are as comfortable as they are said to be, we shall know where to go for a good bedroom.

*Good Words* tells us about the old Franciscan town of Assisi, seldom visited under such advantages as "J. T." possessed. There is also a concise biography of "Sir Charles Metcalfe," by J. W. Kaye.

*London Society* describes and illustrates some very amusing "More Witnesses," and a tourist hits off some of the characteristic features at Bangor and Llandudno.

The *Social Science Review* has "A Visit to the Familistery, or Workman's Home of M. Godin-Lemaire, at Guise," by Tito Pagliardini. In this splendid institution the workman and his family find all the equivalents in comfort of an income considerably larger than their wages, and yet leave a profit of about six per cent. interest to their employer on the capital. All this is done without the least sacrifice of personal liberty. The utmost privacy at home, and the most perfect immunity from constraint are secured. The description is principally taken from a pamphlet by M. Oyon on the subject. It is a most interesting sketch for any one inclined to emulate Mr. Peabody's charity, or who wants to see how far something like Fourierism is already practicable.

The *Victoria Magazine* commences two fresh stories, and continues a third. Is this really attractive?

We have received the *Children's Hour*, the *Christian Treasury*, the *Quiver*, *Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper*, *Popular Natural History*, *Illustrated Shakespeare*, *Bible Dictionary*, and *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, *Don Quixote*, and *Holy Bible*, the *Sunday Teacher's Treasury*, *Our Own Fireside*, the *Mother's Treasury*, the *Missing Link*, the *Ladies' Treasury*, and *Hardwicke's Science Gossip*; the sixth part of *Brande's Dictionary*, and the thirty-first part of *Watts' Dictionary of Chemistry*; the *Sixpenny Magazine*, the *Day of Rest*, the *Monthly Magazine*, the *Boy's Own Magazine*, the *Englishman's Magazine*, the *Englishwoman's Magazine*, *Young England*, the *Young Englishwoman*, the *Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*, the *Churchman's Family Magazine*, *The Church for the People*, and the *Sunday Magazine*, in which Mr. Plumptre



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very justly says that "our knowledge of the old age of St. Peter is traditional and conjectural." The *Shilling Magazine* tells us all about the portrait miniatures still exhibiting at Kensington, of which nearly seventy are ascribed to the famous Samuel Cooper; and amongst them two or more undoubted originals of Oliver Cromwell. A sketch of Bedlam provides a good antidote for those minds which have been frightened by Mr. Charles Reade. A notice of M. Guizot endorses the universal opinion, that he was incapable of appreciating the position in which he was placed.

*The Catechist's Manual.* With an Introduction by Samuel Lord Bishop of Oxford. (Parker.)—The Bishop of Oxford is great just now in acting godfather to many little books; nor does he ever lose any opportunity of inveighing against what he considers the dark cloud of the age—"a decreasing value for the specific dogmatic statements of Divine truth as such." We notice that every single so-called type is laid down as a direct prophecy, and every proposition fortified by a copious body of Scriptural quotations. Finally, the Bishop "ventures strongly to recommend the work for widespread adoption."

*Light on the Grave.* By the Author of "Emblems of Jesus," &c. (Edinburgh: Nimmo.)—These little essays give the Christian view of the various stages of immortality, so far as they can be deduced from revelation. We are conducted step by step from the hope of a future state to "the celestial mansions." There is no attempt, however, to describe the undecipherable. Whilst they are, of course, highly religious, there is, granting the premises, nothing of that bad taste which sometimes rushes in where no one yet has ever trod and returned to tell the tale. The poetry at the end of each is usually well selected, but Luther's Hymn, and one of the many noble translations of the "Dies Iræ," would have been better at the termination of "The Grand Assize" than the poor plagiarisms of Mr. Henry Alford.

*Penny Readings.*—"The popularity of what are called 'Penny Readings,' and the practice, now happily frequent," says Mrs. Ellis, "of reading aloud to gatherings of working people, have created a demand for a literature especially adapted to these purposes." To meet this demand, that lady has written, *Share and Share Alike, or the Grand Principle*—(Jackson, Walford, & Hodder)—the story of which inculcates cheerful submission to our social circumstances with regard to riches and poverty.—*Tom Miller, or the Battle of Life Fought and Won*—(Macintosh)—is reprinted from "The Seaman's and Fisherman's Friendly Visitor," and is suited for "Penny Reading" where Evangelical and Calvinistic teaching prevails.—*The Story of the Kirk*, by Robert Naismith—(Johnston, Hunter, & Co.)—like the same writer's "Story of an English Bible," is at once instructive and interesting, and, being divided into short sections, the subject of each forms the text, as it were, for an extemporaneous lecture.—*Sam Bottom's Cottage, and What kept his Wife from Church*—(Seeley, Jackson, & Halliday)—is particularly suitable as reading at a "women's meeting," where a lady reads aloud to the women while seated at their work.—*Nedevade Forest, or the Martyrs of Stone*—(Masters)—reprinted from "The Churchman's Companion," is the Anglo-Saxon legend of the conversion and martyrdom of Wulfhad and Ruffin, the sons of Wulfhere, King of Mercia, in the year 659.—*Gotfried of the Iron-Hand: a Tale of German Chivalry*—(Johnston, Hunter, & Co.)—is the very charming story of Götz von Berlichingen—the Peasant War of Germany of 1514, and the early years of the Reformation.—*Short Tales to Explain Homely Proverbs*—(Johnston, Hunter, & Co.)—are twelve pretty tales, which are each just sufficiently long enough to rivet the attention, and so pleasantly to form the subject of a discourse, or of mutual discussion, where the latter is sought to be promoted. To these Messrs. Warne and Co. add a shilling volume of selections in prose and verse, under the title of *Penny Readings Selected and Edited by J. E. Carpenter.*

*Three Great Teachers of Our Time:* being an Attempt to Deduce the Spirit and Purpose Animating Carlyle, Tennyson, and Ruskin. By Alexander H. Japp. (Smith, Elder, & Co.)—Mr. Japp has attempted too much. It would have been difficult to have presented a full account of the teaching of any one of the men named on his title-page; but to attempt, as he

has done, to reconcile their teaching, is to engage in a hopeless task. For his effort the author deserves more commendation than for his performance. He characterizes the essays by Mr. Ruskin on Political Economy as *Applied Christianity*. Were he to study the writings of John Stuart Mill with a little more care, he would rate Mr. Ruskin's strange productions far less highly, and he would be able to estimate the result of his teaching more justly than he has done.

*Gleanings amongst the Vineyards.* By an (sic) F.R.G.S. (Beeton.)—To write well about wines, a man should have drunk well of good wines. We have little faith in a writer who strings together paragraphs like the following, the italics being ours: "Knowing the taste of Englishmen for strong and well-spirited wines, it was suggested that some of the common red and white (Hungarian) wines should be treated and fortified as the Oporto and Xerez wines were. And before our travellers left Vienna wines much resembling port, sherry, and Madeira, were prepared by the addition of spirit and blending with some of their strong and sweet wines. These were afterwards introduced into this country, after undergoing a further blending in Hamburg with some of the common Malaga and Cadiz wines, and sold largely as Hungarian ports and sherries. As far as quality goes, they are much better than the common Spanish red or white wines, and will supersede the use of British wines, as they are made from the juice of the grape." An anecdote is told of our noble Premier, as to these British wines. "The port, gentlemen," he was wont to say, "I can warrant; it was made by my father. As for the claret and champagne, you must judge for yourselves; those come from my wine-merchant." An F.R.G.S. may, however, be consulted as to the qualities of cheap and inferior wines with some advantage, his knowledge of high class wines being evidently limited. But as common dinner beverages, Rhenish at 1s. 4d. a bottle, Bordeaux, which the writer calls "a good sound claret," at 1s. a bottle, Macon, Beaune, Chablis, St. George, and Beaujolais at 1s. 6d. per bottle, all of which he recommends, will be greatly improved if the advice of a late well-known gourmet be followed, and even on the Continent these wines are first boiled and taken warm.

*Sensation Trials, Chiefly in High Life, and Causes Célèbres, &c., &c.* By a Civilian. (Murray and Co., Paternoster Row.)—The Civilian is one of those well-meaning men who are evidently set upon reforming the world after their own fashion. In place and out of place, he lugs in Latin quotations, and for the benefit of country cousins, by way of appendix, furnishes literal translations of the same, rivalling in these the style of little boys going up for a middle class examination. The book places on record the modern and model bank of Sir John Dean Paul; the Rugeley poisonings; the suicide and defalcation of Sadleir; Redpath, the luxurious; Dr. Smethurst and Miss Banks; Roupell and his forgeries; Catherine Wilson, Madeleine Smith, and Müller; the Royal British Bank; Colonel Waugh and Mr. Windham; Sir Creswell Creswell's Court; the Yelvertons; Constance Kent, &c., &c.—quite enough horrors for any one to sup on who loves to study human nature from its dark side alone.

*Little Lilla; or, The Way to be Happy.* By E. C. With four Engravings.—*The Little Door-keeper.* By S. T. C. With four Engravings.—*Brook Silvertone, and The Lost Lilies: Two Stories for Children.* By Emma Marshall, author of "Helen's Diary," &c. With thirteen woodcut illustrations. (Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday.)—Three volumes belonging to Messrs. Seeley's large-type books for the nursery library. "Little Lilla" is a book to be read aloud by a young eight-year-old sister, to the little ones upon whom she looks down in the nursery with the budding dignity of a matron, with plenty to interest both the reader and the listeners. "The Little Door-keeper" will please as a good Sunday book; and "Brook Silvertone" and "The Lost Lilies," the cuts to which are very charming, as a prize-book or birthday gift to any young girl, will be welcomed both for its contents and its illustrations.

*The Official Illustrated Guides to the Great Eastern Railway: Colchester and Cambridge Lines.* By George Measom. (Griffin & Co.)—Whatever may be thought of the management of the Great Eastern line, at all events, no fault can be found with their official

guide books. Perhaps the directors think they are bound to provide full information to their passengers of every place they pass, and which report says they have ample leisure to observe. We must not, however, look a gift horse in the mouth. Cambridgeshire, at all events, has never found a tourist's guide before, and Essex is almost a virgin soil for such notices as these. The books are profusely illustrated with woodcuts, and taking advantage of the steamers from Harwich, the author wanders to Holland and the Dutch. As many persons are interested now in metropolitan sewage, they may be glad to know where the works at Crossness are well described, and where to see a good plan of the southern outfall of the great sewer.

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

- AMBROSE (Isaac). Looking unto Jesus, as carrying on the Great Work of Man's Salvation; or, a View of the Everlasting Gospel. (Cottage Library). 32mo, pp. 343. *Milner & Sowerby*. 1s.
- BELL'S English Poets Re-issue. The Poems of Samuel Butler. Vol. 3. Fesp. 8vo, pp. 243. *Griffin*. 8s., 1s.; cl., 1s. 6d.
- BIBLE. The Holy Bible; with Notes and Introductions by Chr. Wordsworth, D.D. Part 2—Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy. 2nd Edition. Imp. 8vo, pp. xxxvi.—287. *Rivingtons*. 18s.; Vol. 1 Complete, 38s.
- BICKERSTETH (Miss). Childhood of Jesus. By the Author of "Doing and Suffering," &c., &c. With Illustrations. Sq. cr. 8vo, sd., pp. 46. *J. F. Shaw*. 1s.
- Christ's Wonderful Works. Pp. 48. 1s.
- The Parables of Jesus. Pp. 48. 1s.
- The Friends of Jesus. Pp. 48. 1s.
- The Story of the Cross. Pp. 48. 1s.
- Stories of the Holy Land. Pp. 48. 1s.
- BINGHAM (Charles H., M.A.). Story of Naaman the Syrian. Fesp. 8vo, pp. vii.—117. *W. Hunt & Co.* 2s.
- BROOK (Nelsie). "Come Home, Mother!" With Illustrations. 12mo, pp. 64. *Partridge*. 1s.
- BROWNING (Robert). Selection from the Works of. With Portrait. (Moxon's Miniature Poets.) Sq. fesp., 8vo, pp. vii.—224. *Moxon*. 5s.
- BUNYAN'S Pilgrim's Progress. 32mo, pp. 475. *Religious Tract Society*. Cl. sd., 6d.; cl., 8d.
- BUSHNELL (W. H.). The Hermit of the Colorado Hills. A Story of the Texan Pampas. (Beadie's American Library, No. 56.) Fesp. 8vo, sd., pp. 128. *Beadie*. 6d.
- CESAR'S Commentaries, Extracts from. With a Classified Vocabulary and copious Notes, for Beginners. By Joseph Currie, 4th Edition Revised. Fesp. 8vo, pp. viii.—154. *Griffin*. 2s.
- CARPENTER. Penny Readings in Prose and Verse. Selected and edited by J. E. Carpenter. Vol. 2. Fesp. 8vo, bds., pp. 252. *Warne*. 1s.
- COLLINS (Digby). Horse-trainer's and Sportsman's Guide; with additional Considerations on the Duties of Grooms, on purchasing Blood Stock, and on Veterinary Examination. Post 8vo, pp. xi.—254. *Longmans*. 6s.
- D'AGUILAR (Lieut.-General Sir George, K.C.B.). Observations on the Practice and the Forms of District, Regimental, and Detachment Courts Martial. Also Remarks on the Composition and Practice of Courts of Inquiry, &c., &c. Revised by John Endle, Esq. 8vo, pp. 262. *Gill* (Dublin). 7s.
- DAVIS (J. B.). On Synostotic Crania among Aboriginal Race of Man. 11 Plates. 4to. *Williams & Norgate*. 6s.
- DEINON (Edmund Beckett, L.L.D., Q.C.). Astronomy without Mathematics. Fesp. 8vo, pp. vii.—193. *Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge*. 2s.
- DERBICK (Francis). Mildred's Wedding. A Family History. 3 Vols. Post 8vo, pp. 1,044. *Warne*. 31s. 6d.
- DICKENS (Charles) Works. People's Edition. Dombey and Son. In 2 Vols. Vol. 2. Post 8vo, bds., pp. 272. *Chapman & Hall*. 2s.
- DRURY (Anna H.). The Brothers. A Novel. 2 Vols. Post 8vo, pp. 600. *Chapman & Hall*. 21s.
- ELEMENTS (The) of Botany for Families and Schools. 10th Edition. Revised by Thomas Moore, F.L.S. Fesp. 8vo, pp. viii.—204. *Longmans*. 2s. 6d.
- ELLIOTT (Rev. Henry Venn, M.A.). Sermons Preached before the University of Cambridge in 1850, 1853, and 1854. Cr. 8vo, pp. xi.—293. *Rivingtons*. 7s.
- ESSAYS by an Old Man. No. 1. In Memoriam—Vanitas Vanitatum—Friends. (Odds and Ends, No. 8.) Fesp. 8vo, sd., pp. 29. *Edmonston & Douglas*. 6d.
- EURIPIDES Alcestis, literally translated into English Prose, with Notes, 12mo, sd., pp. 34. *Hall & Son* (Cambridge). *Whittaker*. 1s.
- FAITH Gartney's Girlhood. By the Author of "The Gay-worthys," &c., &c. Sm. post 8vo, bds., pp. viii.—355. *Lois*. 2s. 6d.
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- FOX (W. J.). Memorial Edition of Collected Works of. Vol. 3. Miscellaneous Lectures and Sermons, and Twenty Sermons on the Principles of Morality inculcated in the Holy Scriptures. Post 8vo, pp. 350. *C. Fox*. 5s.
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- INGRAM (Rev. J. H.). Pillar of Fire; or, Israel in Bondage. Illustrated. Fesp. 8vo, pp. xxvi.—152. *Virtue*. 5s.
- KELLY'S Post Office Directory of Cambridge, Norfolk, and Suffolk. Edited by E. R. Kelly, M.A. Imp. 8vo, pp. xviii.—994. *Kelly*. 25s.
- KIMBER (Thomas, M.A.). Mathematical Course for the University of London; containing an Outline of the Subjects in Pure Mathematics included in the Regulations of the Senate, for the Matriculation and Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science Pass Examinations; with the entire Series of Mathematical Papers set by the University from 1838 to the current year. New Edition, enlarged and improved. 8vo. *Longmans*. 10s. 6d.
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# THE READER.

7 OCTOBER, 1865.

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**MACRAE (David).** Dunvarlich; or, Round about the Bush. 4th Thousand. 18mo, sd., pp. viii.—255. *Scottish Temperance League (Glasgow.) Houlston.* 1s.

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**SMITH (John William).** Compendium of Mercantile Law. 7th Edition. By George Morley Dowdeswell. Roy. 8vo, pp. lviii.—1,122. *Stevens & Sons.* 36s.

**SUNDAY MAGAZINE (The)** for 1865. Edited by Thomas Guthrie, D.D. Illustrated. Roy. 8vo, pp. vi.—954. *Strahan.* 8s. 6d.

**TALES from "Bentley."** Re-issue. Vol. 3. Fsep. 8vo, bds. *Bentley.* 1s.

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**WORDSWORTH (Chr., D.D.).** Theophilus Anglicanus; or, Manual of Instruction on the Church and the Anglican Branch of It. 9th Edition. Fsep. 8vo, pp. xi.—344. *Rivingtons.* 5s.

## OBITUARY.

**MADAME ANDELOW**, the well-known Slavonic writer, died at Dorpat, toward the end of August. On the 5th ult. Dr. Friederich Bach, the lyric poet, died at Werschatz; and on the 14th, at Berlin, Dr. Moritz Baumert, late Professor of Chemistry at Bonn.

The death of the Rev. Mr. WALKER, Reader in Experimental Philosophy at Oxford, is a loss that will be severely felt. Most of those who have gained mathematical honours in that

University during the last forty years were prepared for the schools by Mr. Walker. He never took any prominent part in the theological controversies which from time to time have agitated the University, and was altogether just the kind of man who assisted to foster the intellectual life of a place like Oxford, without ever being known to the world without.

We regret to announce the death of M. HEIM, the celebrated painter of "The Massacre of the Jews," for which he was decorated by Louis XVIII., and of several ceilings of the Louvre, the finest of which, "Vesuvius Receiving Fire from Heaven," gained him admittance to the Institute. He was in his 78th year, having been born in 1787.

Mr. DUDLEY COSTELLO died at his residence in Acacia Road, St. John's Wood, on the 30th ult., aged 62. He was educated for the army, at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and, obtaining a commission, served with his regiment and on the staff in North America and the West Indies. Leaving the army, he turned his attention to literature, and wrote several novels, most of which appeared in *Bentley's Miscellany*. He published a "Tour through the Valley of the Meuse" in 1845, and "Italy, from the Alps to the Tiber," in 1861. Of his works of fiction, "Stories from a Screen" appeared in 1855; "The Joint-Stock Banker" in 1856; "The Millionaire" in 1858; "Faint Heart Never Won Fair Lady" in 1859; and "Holidays and Hobgoblins" in 1860. In 1838 he was on the staff of the *Morning Herald*, and in 1846 on that of the *Daily News*. Besides his contributions to *Bentley's Miscellany*, he contributed to the *New Monthly*, *Household Words*, and the *Examiner*.

We copy from *Trübner's American and Oriental Literary Record* the following obituary notices of three well-known American writers: I. Miss Hannah Flagg Gould died on Tuesday, September 5, at Newburyport, Mass., at an advanced age. She was a native of Lancaster, Vermont, but has been resident at Newburyport for more than fifty years. She was the author of several volumes of poetry, which have been more popular in America than the productions of any other female poet. In 1832 she published her first volume, in 1835 her second, and in 1841 a third, all of which passed through several editions. In 1846 she published a collection of her prose writings, under the title of "Gathered Leaves," and has since then issued four volumes, two of which contained original poems.—II. On the 4th July, at San Francisco, died Dr. Alonzo Potter, Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, a liberal-minded and philanthropic prelate, whose name has been associated for some years past with nearly every important social movement in Pennsylvania. His writings have attained some celebrity in the United States. They are—1. "The Principle of Science Applied to the Domestic and Mechanic Arts, and to Manufactures and Agriculture." New York, 1841. 2. "Political Economy: its Objects, Uses, and Principles." New York, 1841. 3. "The School and the Schoolmaster." 4. "Handbook for Readers and Students." 1847. 5. "Discourses, Charges, Addresses," &c. 1858.—And III. The author of "The White Slave," Mr. Richard Hildreth, Consul for the United States, died on the 11th of July, at Trieste, at the age of fifty-eight. He was a political writer of considerable eminence, and especially distinguished for his "History of the United States," deemed by many the best ever published. He also translated Bentham's "Theory of Legislation," from the French of Dumont; published a capital account of Japan; issued, under the title of "Atrocious Judges," a selection from Lord Campbell's "Lives of the Chancellors," and contributed several works to the political literature of America. Before undertaking the consulship he was editor of the *New York Tribune*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

BEAL FIRES.

To the Editor of THE READER.

Sir,—The number of THE READER for July 22 contains some remarks about the *beal fires* on St. John's Eve. The writer seems to be in doubt whether this custom is peculiarly Celtic, or whether it belongs alike to all European

racés. The fact is that besides its prevalence among the Celtic population of Great Britain and France, this usage is very common in most parts of Germany. The Eve of St. John is an important season for the German inhabitants of St. Petersburg. On that evening great multitudes of them—men, women, and children—repair to an island at the mouth of the Neva. There they light great fires, round which they dance and sing, the more adventurous spirits leaping through the flames. The whole scene is a kind of saturnalia, and the revelry lasts till sunrise. A striking contrast to this is formed by the Russian celebration of the same festival, which I have witnessed several times. The most elevated spot in the neighbourhood of the village is generally selected. Here a fire of brushwood is lighted at sunset; but this is only a preliminary proceeding, and the fire is left to the care of the boys of the village, while the men and women arrive at a later hour, when barrels of tar are rolled into the blaze. The men and women divide into two parties, and, sitting down at a short distance from the fire, sing alternately. It appears probable that the barrels are employed not only, nor even chiefly, on account of the blaze which they make, but as a solar symbol, just as a wheel is often rolled into the flames during the celebration of the same festival in France. This custom is almost universal throughout Russia; it extends even into the wilds of Siberia, and is practised by some at least of the Finnish tribes of Russia. Whether, in the latter case, it has been borrowed from the Russians is a question difficult to decide, but the supposition does not seem to be a likely one, as the Finns are remarkable for the obstinacy with which they cling to their own customs, and the difficulty of making them adopt those of another race.

The hypothesis suggested in your note (p. 96), that the Roman Church had, perhaps, forced this usage upon other than its originators, will not account for the existence of the custom among races so alien to the Romish Church as are the Finns and Slavonians; while a rite common to the Celtic and the Slavonian tribes, the earliest and the latest arrivals of the great Aryan migration, must have been an essential one in the primitive religion of the parent race. The whole subject is one of great interest, and it would benefit much by an airing in your columns.—Yours truly,

JOHN GOODLET.

St. Petersburg, September 26, 1865.

"GRUB STREET."

To the Editor of THE READER.

Sir,—A paragraph in the last number of THE READER states that "'Grub-street' was named 'Milton-street,' to get rid of disagreeable associations, not to honour our great epic poet, who never dwelt in it." *Notes and Queries*, March 3rd, 1860, says: "About 1830 the name of 'Grub-street' was changed into that of 'Milton-street,' not after the great poet (says Elwes), as some have asserted, but from a respectable builder, so called, who purchased the whole street on a repairing lease." This last can scarcely be correct. If you can find space in your columns for any reliable information on this and similar subjects, it will, I am sure, be interesting to most of your readers. In this case it would much oblige your obedient servant,

A. R.

"SOPHY LAURIE."

To the Editor of THE READER.

Sir,—In reading your review in this week's READER of "Sophy Laurie," by W. Carew Hazlitt, I find that Mr. Hazlitt claims the corrector of that "trashy" book to be joint author with himself; and his grounds are based upon the following:—

Author: Everything.

Corrector: *Tout ensemble.*

Author: *Facilis descensus Averni.*

Corrector: "Virg."

Author: Lump of the sea.

Corrector: Storms of the sea.

I have corrected for the best and worst authors, and never have I found such composition or such etymology as Mr. Hazlitt's *own*. Before he brings out another work, I would advise him to spend a few years at the puerile study of etymology and composition. He has seen "*Facilis descensus Averni*" quoted; but I am certain he has never read the original. *Opus* "Sophy Laurie" *abstrahendi est difficile*.—Yours truly,

THE CORRECTOR.

P.S.—I enclose my card.

Loughborough, Leicestershire, Sept. 30, 1865.



## MODERN SAINTS.\*

THE strong necessity of loving plays strange, fantastic tricks; and never more strange than when it puts on the garb of piety. True piety is a robust plant, which blossoms late; elevated devotion is a real exotic, and our northern imitations but greenhouse trees-of-life. Whenever we meet them, they shrink from the touch, and though they pant for light, it must be of a peculiar and heat-producing kind. Modern piety is not like the Oriental absorption of the creature into the thing worshipped. It dreads itself, and is ever self-conscious. It cannot forsake father and mother, brothers and sisters; on the contrary, it tries to make idols of them. It grasps at anything which may draw it down to earth and renew its strength. The pietist feels God would never have required her to throw herself into a furnace. She blushes to think the idea ever occurred. "Had I had a mother from youth upwards, there has been much she would not have allowed." What more could the greatest sinner say? "Oh! how the passions harm us! how they shatter body and soul!" But why not direct them, and make of them the sails or motive engines of life? "I am not happy since the renunciation of the affections of my life!" Then why say of the saints, "How wise they are to die beforehand, to perform their own obsequies by retiring from the world!"

Here is no overwhelming sense of sin, no fakeer-like belief in the vast efficacy of prayer. These are not the struggles which produced the monstrous legend that heaven itself can be scaled by penance, or that the moon and the stars can be changed in their courses. There is a doubt if health and strength are proper objects to ask for, however much desired; a fear in offering prayer which ill accords with religious rest. We may be certain St. Theresa never wished to study botany. She never desired to know the tastes of flowers—what butterflies they love, what drops of dew they require, or their hidden virtues. Vain for such a mind to long for such a life, or sigh to be equal to the death of Blandina.

The saints never envied those who sang in the sweat of their brow. They never bent over the boy who thought himself the cleverest in the school, or longed to take him from his father and stop the cherishing of his conceit.

The heart really wrapped up in God does not wonder what will occur to-day; nor does it fear that the vision of the years to come may be too terrifying; nor does it look on the announcement of a brother's marriage as one of the greatest joys in life. The monks in their Egyptian Lauras had no admiration of poets who had seen all, done all, felt all; nor did they weep over the fate of the imperial Octavia, as French devotees can do over Lady Jane Grey.

The stuff which shrinks from placing happiness higher than the creature was made for every-day life, though such may seem a fitting holocaust to heavenly hope. The intellect which would put its thoughts in a book, where the overflow of its soul might find an outlet, wants but a little impulse to cure its disease by action.

\* "Journal of Eugénie de Guérin." Edited by C. S. Trebutien. (Simpkin, Marshall, & Co.) 1865.

Saint-like devotion is worth nothing unless it is thorough. The temperament without the gift of genius is the most unreal thing in the world. It oscillates between thinking that "after Paris all is empty;" and that "to endure and endure oneself is the height of wisdom." The religion of such spirits is no doubt sincere. But it is, after all, only a refuge. "There is a repose in this measured life, in this linking together of duties, studies, prayers, hymns, relaxations, that come one after the other to the religious, like the successive rings in an endless chain." And then the same page notes down the arrival of the "Soap-bubble," an Oriental tale. Are we dealing with Martha, or with Mary?

To watch over an unbelieving brother, is to assume a singular kind of superiority. To rehabilitate the memory of one who made only a death-bed repentance, is a task which no one could undertake who had not already missed the chief purposes of life. The spirit of her departed Maurice seems to have dragged down Mdlle. de Guérin much as the Vampire Bride sucked out the heart's blood of the Christian bridegroom for whom she had deserted her ancestral gods. The faith which was ancient prevailed here as there. But it exacted the penalty of death. Spirits and bodies can only meet in a kind of stormy twilight, and the warmth of love will pass from the one, whilst the other must remain cold as ever.

Nothing can show more clearly that the spirit of the monastic and conventual life is gone than these solitary attempts at once to restore and escape it. The monk in his cell might well pray for the knightly brother who had gone to the wars. Each had a definite place in the catholic system. But the web of life is now so complex, that he who weaves it can have no sympathy with those who sit and look on. We can only see arrested development in the affections which have never been fixed on anything but a father and a brother. This counting up the seconds of one's life savours more of an insurance office than of the rights of conscience. We are distressed by the desire to give some plain, wholesome advice to these self-torturing sophists. English clergymen of this sort have been well told to take a curacy, and they will soon cease brooding over the mysteries of the Trinity.

A real hermit would be as respectable as ever. But what are we to make of a recluse who pines for "Notre Dame de Paris," and wants to be busy and practical. Better to make a *mariage de convenance*, and celebrate your *jour de fête*, than to register every day when some relation died or some temporary separation took place. The constant idea of a brother in purgatory is painful, but it cannot be more so than these twistings and turnings of a living being who daily jots down that life is a constant agony. When the imagination is powerful enough to invest such thoughts in poetry, there is some result; but Wordsworth's ideas without Wordsworth's rhythm would make his manner an aversion to every one.

It is a great mistake to suppose that there is anything complete in mere devotion to a useless idea. The sepulchral column, which has been purposely broken, is, after all, but a conceit. The best poets are said to be those who have never penned their inspiration; and the best

diarists are those who never record that they have lost or lived the day. The difficulty with journals is to know whether they were ever really meant to be kept from inspection or not. Those who look on a pen as but the heart's plaything may easily deceive themselves. No one wonders who will read what they really never intend to be seen. The ancient satirist who told secrets to his books as to his bosom friends merely gave them news earliest. We almost prefer satire, notwithstanding Mr. Tennyson's latest denouncement of it, to a deliberate statement that "to be a good father, good son, good citizen, good brother, does not suffice to make us enter heaven." Attempts to strike out a unique path in life must needs fail, unless it is one's destiny. Genius is necessary for all things, even for martyrdom. Prayer must be made an enthusiasm or a business. Saints have nothing to do with the "physiology of the passions." The remedy for such aberrations is early marriage. Those who can see the weak side of their idolatry should not carve the image still more curiously for others. It is too true already that—

Books have so much power over the heart,  
Which sometimes also goes astray even from  
piety.

## MISCELLANEA.

AN American correspondent quotes from Mrs. Farrar's book, just published at Boston, some personal recollections of Lord Nelson and Lady Hamilton: "A public dinner was given at Milford to Lord Nelson, at which Lady Hamilton chose to be present. She sat next to him, cut up his meat, which the loss of an arm prevented him from doing, and fed him with tit-bits from her own plate. She had a fine voice, and would sing sailors' songs and verses, written in praise of the great admiral, at public dinners. . . . Lord Nelson was very ordinary in his appearance, lean and sallow, his face much wrinkled, and his hair very thin. He was proud of the loss of his arm, and always wore his coat-sleeve empty."

THE hall of St. John's College, Cambridge, which has been enlarged under the direction of Mr. G. G. Scott, was re-opened for use on Sunday last. The proportions of the room are greatly improved by the addition, which has increased the length by more than one-half. The new bay window is a very successful piece of work, and the effect of the two bays, though somewhat peculiar, is on the whole good; there is, however, one grievous blemish in the addition—that is, the doorway leading to the new combination-room. It is only a copy of the old entrance to the screens, retaining some unnecessary faults in the original, with the addition of two unmeaning, ugly buttresses, which render the whole quite unworthy of an architect of Mr. Scott's reputation.

MR. TRUBNER possesses a copy of one of the rarest books connected with the literary history of Spanish America, of which scarcely any European library has a copy. The work consists of 3,687 literary notices, both biographical and bibliographical, and we copy the title from the valuable list of Mexican literature given in the new number of *Trübner's Literary Record*: *Biblioteca Hispano-Americana Septentrional 6 Catálogo y Noticia de los Literatos, que 6 nacidos, 6 educados 6 florecientes en la América Septentrional Espanola han dado á luz algun escrito 6 lo han dexado preparado para la prensa. La escribia el Doctor D. José Mariano Beristain de Souza, y la publica Don José Rafael Enriquez Trespalacios Beristain, Sobrino del autor. 3 Vols. 4to. pp. xviii. 540, 524, 366. México, 1816-21.*

AMONGST the recent additions to the South Kensington Museum is a presentation copy of Mr. Abel's beautiful book on the Eleanor Crosses. The Council has done the book all honour, and had it superbly bound in blue morocco by Riviere.

WE are requested to state that in consequence of Mr. Purkis's death, the Lord President of the Council has appointed Mr. Merrifield to resume the office of Principal of the School of Naval



Architecture for the next session, which commences on 1st November.

M. DALLOZ, of the *Moniteur*, has sold the evening *Moniteur* to M. Conitel for a million of francs. The *Petit Moniteur* will publish in future in each number an article emanating from the Ministerial departments.

GUSTAVE DORE's magnificent illustrations to the Bible, noticed in last week's *READER*, and upon which he has been engaged for the last four years, will be published, with English text, by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, who have purchased the engravings for their sole and exclusive use in the English language.

LORD NELSON and the Wiltshire archaeologists are angry with us. We recently announced that the owner of Stonehenge had very properly refused to sanction their desire to raise the fallen trilithon and dig under the altar-stone of that important national monument, and we congratulated the public on the fact. A meeting of the society has just been held, at which Lord Nelson denied that there was anything "ruthless" in their proposition, and "thought it right in his own defence, and that of the society, to go rather fully into the matter." Since, then, nothing ruthless was contemplated, what was the scheme proposed? Nothing less than a tunnel and brick arch under the altar-stone and the removal of the earth from beneath! It has hitherto been supposed that truth lay in a well, but according to his lordship it is now to be sought in a brick tunnel. The secretary, following his lordship, admitted that had the owner's consent been obtained little good would have been effected, and threw the blame of the proposed excavations upon the British Association. "It was imposed upon them by the British Association," he said. What excuse has the Association to offer?

We have seen a country bookseller's catalogue of autograph letters with extracts from the documents printed. For sums varying from one shilling to a guinea letters are to be bought that certainly the writers never meant for sale. There may be only want of taste in making a marketable commodity of a celebrated personage's invitation to dinner, or of the note of a clever actress to a manager. But it is an outrage to offer for public sale the letter of an eminent writer who, in a time of great mental distress, wrote, "because my name has a shadow on it, I feel as if it would be bitter and ridiculous to see it going the round of all the newspapers after all that those newspapers held last summer."

MR. STAUNTON's photo-lithographic fac-simile of the first folio Shakespeare of 1623 will be completed by the publication of the 16th part in the course of this month.

THE *Church and State Review*, which has hitherto been a monthly, will in future be a weekly publication. Archdeacon Denison retires from the editorship.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS, who is in Paris, has perfectly recovered from the effects of the recent sun-stroke.

MR. BAKER, the African traveller, reached Cairo on the 19th ult., *via* Berber, Suakin, and Suez.

MR. BENTLEY will shortly publish some curious revelations of Eastern life by Miss Emmeline Lott, under the title of "Harem Life in Egypt and Constantinople." The lady has enjoyed peculiar opportunities of gaining information on the subject while holding the post of governess to the children of his Highness the Grand Pacha Ibrahim of Egypt.

MESSRS. TINSLEY BROTHERS have forwarded to us for insertion the following letter, dated October 5, "To the Editor of the *London Review*. Sir,—We will thank you to contradict the 'rumour' circulated by you in your last number, to the effect that we are about to turn over our business 'to a limited company.' We have no intention of parting with our business, even at a price a limited company might feel disposed to give us. The idea of our starting a new daily paper is almost too absurd to require serious contradiction. Still, it may be as well to do so, if only to show how 'rumours' are circulated which have not the slightest foundation, and the truth of which might easily be ascertained.—We are, your obedient servants, Tinsley Brothers."

In Dutch literature we have to notice Jr. D. van Ratenburg's *Voyage to Java*.—Gids op eene reis van en naar Java, met een koopvaardij-schip; bevattende tevens: behalve het bezienswaardigste wat men op die reis aantreft, alles wat voor den reiziger nuttig en noodig is te weten;—Brieven en andere bescheiden rakende het beleg van

Alkmaar in 1573, naar de oorspronkelijke stukken uitgegeven door Dr. J. J. de Gelder;—M. J. Diephuis's *Handboek voor het Nederlandsch handelsrecht*;—*Jaarboek van de Koninklijke Akademie van wetenschappen*, gevestigd te Amsterdam, voor 1864;—Mr. W. A. Reiger, over den volkenrechtelijken regel "Schip is terroir";—G. Verenet's *Pierre le Grand en Hollande et à Zaandam, dans les années 1697 et 1717*. Ouvrage puisé à des sources authentiques.

We live to learn. The *Literarisches Centralblatt*, in its answers to queries, on the 30th ult., gives the word "Froschartical" (Frog article), used by journalists, and states that London papers always had one paragraph standing in type, which related to a rain of frogs. Whenever, in the making up of the paper, a paragraph was needed for padding, the editor called for "the Frog article," and simply by altering the date and the name of the locality where the phenomenon had been previously recorded to have taken place, made it do duty for the nonce. The phrase "Des Lord's Kegel" (My Lord's Nine-pin) is set down to the days of Fox, Sheridan, and Burke, and arose from a certain nobleman having, by means of his pocket-boroughs, nine seats in the House of Commons at his disposal, the members for which were nicknamed "My Lord's Nine-pins" by Sheridan, and the sobriquet stuck to them. On a certain occasion one of these sapient members had addressed the House, and had fallen under the lash of Burke's satire in reply, which had set the house in a roar of laughter. In the midst of it Fox entered, and asking the cause of this "Homeric" roar, was told by Sheridan that it was "nothing, only Burke had knocked down one of my Lord's nine-pins."

"SEASIDE Studies in Natural History," is the title of an octavo volume just written by Elizabeth C. and Alexander Agassiz, and published by Messrs. Ticknor and Fields, of Boston, U.S., in which marine animals found on the American coasts are carefully described, and drawn chiefly from nature.

THE last production of Julius Cæsar literature is "L'Histoire de Jules Cæsar jugée par une Femme," a pamphlet of twenty-four pages, attributed to a high personage, of which three editions, each consisting of only twenty-five copies, have been privately circulated.

Two volumes of Dante literature claim mention. Professor Ferrazzi's "Fraseologia della Divina Commedia e delle Liriche di Dante Alighieri. Aggiuntavi quella del Petrarca, del Furioso e della Gerusalemme Liberata con i Confronti comparativi degli altri Rimatori del Secolo 13 et 14, in three volumes; and Professor Sicilian's "il Triumvirato nella Storia del Pensiero Italiano, ossia Dante, Galileo e Vico," a discourse of thirty-two pages.

MR. BLANCHARD JERROLD, who has produced several books on the condition of the poor in London and Paris, and who recently announced his intention to extend his inquiries into other countries of Europe, proposes the issue within a period of five years of the reports of his researches. For this purpose, an association is forming bearing the name of "The Useful Literature Company, Limited;" the capital to consist of one thousand shares of 20l. each, but 250 shares only to be issued in the first instance, and the remaining share-capital to be subscribed for as other works shall be undertaken. The directors and other official representatives of the company are not yet announced by name; but an honorary committee of sympathizers embraces Lords Brougham and Ingestre, Dr. Trench (of Liverpool), Captain Burton, Mr. Erasmus Wilson, F.R.S., and Mr. John R. L. Walmisley.

MOUSE labour is about to be turned to account, if the following paragraph from last Wednesday's *Times* is to be relied upon, from which it would appear that a gentleman in Scotland has trained a couple of mice, and invented machinery for enabling them to spin yarn. The work is done on the treadmill principle. The mill is so constructed that the common house mouse is enabled to make atonement to society for past offences by twisting and reeling from 100 to 120 threads per day. To complete this the little pedestrian has to run 10½ miles. This journey it performs every day with ease. The paragraph goes on to reckon the cost of keep, &c., and the probable profit, and shows that each mouse can earn one farthing per day. The mouse employer is going to make application for the lease of an old empty house, the dimensions of which are 100 feet by 50 feet, and 50 feet in height, which, at a moderate calculation, will hold 10,000 mouse mills, sufficient room being left for keepers and

some hundreds of spectators. Allowing 200l. for rent and taskmasters, 10,000l. to erect machinery, and 500l. for the interest, there will be left a balance of 2,300l. per annum. Another startling paragraph has been copied from the *Comte Cavour*, a Turin paper, which confidently announces that the problem of perpetual motion has been solved by M. Louis Cauré Rizzo, a mechanic of Strasburg, who, it asserts, has invented a machine which finds its motive force within itself without any external aid. Nay, more; it is to be seen at work at Naples, where it has been applied to raising water, but M. Cauré hopes to render its application universal. Meanwhile, it seems, he has obtained a patent for fifteen years from the Italian Government.

THE *Literarisches Centralblatt*, No. 40, reviews "Englands Handel im Jahre 1864," by J. W. Hargreaves, recently published at Hamburg; the *Deutsches Museum*, No. 38, contains a paper on the entrance of the Federals into Richmond; the *Magazin für die Literatur des Auslandes*, No. 39, Sir Charles Lyell on "Free Inquiry as Opposed to Traditional Bible Teaching;" and John Stuart Mill on "Representative Government;" the *Ausland*, No. 38, "Palgrave's Travels in Arabia," and "Temperature and Density of the Sea;" and the *Göttingische Gelehrten Anzeigen*, No. 33, "Robinson's Physical Geography of the Holy Land."

At the Princess's Theatre, on Wednesday night, during the representation of Mr. Chas. Reade's "It is Never Too Late to Mend," the prison scenes were represented with such shocking fidelity that the whole house rose in a tumult. Disapprobation was loudly expressed. Mr. Vining tried to obtain a hearing for some time in vain. Some persons left the theatre, but at last order was restored, and the piece brought to a conclusion.

MR. EARLE's statue of Edward III., intended for the New Town Hall in Hull, is now all but completed.

THIS Michaelmas term will see King's College, Cambridge, thrown open, for the first time since its foundation, to students other than those educated at Eton. Fellow-commoners, indeed, it has had; but now, through the liberality of one of its fellows, two exhibitioners, who have earned their reward by their own merits, will be added to the number of its undergraduates, and will be allowed to compete for its fellowships. This is one of the results of the late Commission.

PROFESSOR LONGFELLOW has translated the "Divina Commedia" of Dante into blank verse, and the book is now in the press.

MR. ALEXANDER STRAHAN will publish immediately an illustrated edition of the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," with 24 woodcuts by Linton, from drawings by J. Gordon Thomson; "Reminiscences of a Highland Parish," by Norman Macleod, D.D., 1 vol.; "Family Prayers for the Christian Year," by Henry Alford, D.D., Dean of Canterbury, 1 vol., and numerous other works already announced.

MR. J. F. SHAW will publish on the 1st of November the first number and first part of a Bible, to be entitled the "Large Type Illustrated Bible." It will appear in weekly numbers at one penny, and in monthly parts, with coloured illustrations, price sixpence.

MR. HOTTEN has in preparation a "History of Signboards, from the Earliest Times to the Present Day," with anecdotes of famous taverns, remarkable characters, &c., by Jacob Larwood, assisted by J. Camden Hotten; "Cent. per Cent., A Story Written upon a Bill Stamp," by Blanchard Jerrold; "School Life at Winchester College, or the Reminiscences of a Winchester Junior," by the Author of "The Log of the Water Lily," and "The Water Lily on the Danube," with numerous illustrations; "The Young Botanist, a Popular Guide to Elementary Botany," by T. S. Ralph, of the Linnæan Society, 1 vol., with nearly 300 drawings from nature; "Christmas Carols, an Entirely New Gathering of Ancient and Modern, with the music of the more popular religious Carols," edited, with notes, by W. H. Husk, Librarian to the Sacred Harmonic Society; and other works.

MESSRS. BLACKWOOD have in the press: "The Operations of War Explained and Illustrated," by Colonel E. B. Hamley, R.A., late Professor of Military History, Strategy, and Tactics at the Staff College; "The History of Scotland, from Agricola's Invasion to the Revolution of 1688," by John Hill Burton, author of "The Scot Abroad," &c.; "A New Atlas of Modern Geography, for Students and Families," by Alex. Keith Johnston, LL.D., F.R.S.E., F.G.S., to be published in twelve parts, royal



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quarto; "A Dictionary of British-Indian Dates, being a Compendium of all the Dates Essential to the Study of the History of British Rule in India, Legal, Historical, and Biographical, intended for Students about to face Examinations for the Indian Services;" "Ralph Darnell," a novel, by Captain Meadows Taylor, M.R.I.A., author of "Tara," "Confessions of a Thug," &c., in three vols.; "An Introductory Text-book of Meteorology," by Alexander Buchan, Secretary of the Scottish Meteorological Society; "Villa Residences and Farm Architecture, a Series of Designs for Villas, Farm-Houses, Farm-Steadings, Factors' Houses, and Labourers' Cottages, with Descriptions," by John Starforth, architect; "Lectures on the Early Greek Philosophy, and other Philosophical Remains of the late J. F. Ferrier, LL.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy and Political Economy in the University of St. Andrews," edited by Sir Alexander Grant, Bart., LL.D., Principal of Elphinstone College, Bombay; and E. L. Lushington, M.A., Professor of Greek in the University of Glasgow; "The Iliad of Homer;" translated into English verse in the Spenserian stanza, by Philip Stanhope Worsley, M.A.; a new volume, being the third, of the authorised version of "The Monks of the West," from St. Benedict to St. Bernard, by the Count de Montalembert; "Physiology at the Farm in Rearing and Feeding the Live Stock," by William Seller, M.D., F.R.S.E., Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh; formerly Lecturer on Materia Medica and Dietetics; and Henry Stephens, F.R.S.E., author of the "Book of the Farm," &c.; "The Handy Horse-book; or, Practical Instructions on Riding, Driving, and the General Care and Management of Horses," by a Cavalry Officer; and "Geology for General Readers: a Series of Popular Sketches in Geology and Palaeontology," by David Page, F.R.S.E., F.G.S.

MESSRS. SMITH, ELDER, and Co. will publish, during the ensuing season: "Life and Letters of the late Rev. Frederick W. Robertson, M.A., of Trinity Chapel, Brighton," with portrait, two vols., crown 8vo.; "Raphael Santi: his Life and Works," by Alfred Baron von Wolzogen, translated by F. E. Bunnell, translator of Grimm's "Life of Michael Angelo," Gervinus's "Shakespeare Commentaries," &c., crown 8vo.; "A Century of Painters of the English School, with Critical Notices of their Works, and an Account of the Progress of Art in England," by Richard Redgrave, R.A. (Surveyor of Her Majesty's Pictures), and Samuel Redgrave, two vols., demy 8vo.; "The Book of Were-Wolves," by Sabine Baring-Gould, M.A., author of "Iceland: Its Scenes and Sagas;" a new volume of "Reminiscences," by Captain Gronow, crown 8vo.; "Denis Duval," by the late W. M. Thackeray, crown 8vo.; "Three Years among the Working Classes in the United States during the War," by the author of "Autobiography of a Beggar Boy," crown 8vo.; "Irish Coast Tales of Love and Adventure," by Captain L. Esmonde White, post 8vo.; and "Waterloo: a Story of the Hundred Days," a sequel to "The Conscript," from the French of Erckmann Chatrian, crown 8vo. They also announce two new novels—"Shellburn," by Alexander Leighton, author of "Curious-storied Traditions of Scottish Life," and "Faith Unwin's Ordeal," by Georgiana M. Craik, author of "Winifred's Wooing," "Lost and Won," &c., two vols., post 8vo.

MR. TEGG is issuing a series of elegantly got up books for young people, under the title of "Tegg's Illuminated Juvenile Series." He has already published "The Children of the Wood," with a preface by Thos. Hood; "The Beggar of Bednall Greene;" "John Gilpin;" "Robin Hood Ballads;" "Songs of the Seasons," by Thos. Miller; and the "Story of Ruth, the Moabitess." The covers are illuminated, the wood-cuts well executed, and paper and print all that can be desired.

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW and Co. announce a new monthly adventure, an illustrated sixpenny magazine, under the title of the *Argosy*, the first number of which will appear December 1, and will contain the first instalment of a new tale by Charles Reade, and contributions from writers of the highest talent. The new illustrated books of the firm are: "Pictures of Society, Grave and Gay," comprising one hundred engravings on wood from most eminent artists, including Milais, Pickersgill, &c.; "The Divine and Moral Songs of Dr. Watts," illustrated with one hundred woodcuts from original designs by distinguished artists. They will also publish in October a series of eight new one shilling story books for young people, entitled, "The Great Fun Toy Books," by Thomas Hood and Thomas

Archer, each illustrated by six of Edward Wehnert's well-known "Great Fun" pictures, printed in colours, with an appropriate cover by Charles Bennett; choice editions of Children's Fairy Tales, each illustrated with highly-finished coloured pictures in fac-simile of water-colour drawings; "Turkey," by J. Lewis Farley, F.S.S., author of "Two Years in Syria," with a portrait of Fuad Pasha; "The Conspiracy of Count Fieschi, an Episode in Italian History," by M. de Cellesia, translated by David Hilton, author of a "History of Brigandage," with portrait; "A Walk from London to the Land's End, with Notes by the Way," by Elihu Burritt (the Learned Blacksmith), author of "A Walk from London to John O'Groat's," with illustrations; "Passing the Time," an original novel, by Blanchard Jerrold, two vols.; "Letters on England," by Louis Blanc; a selection of Montaigne's Essays, choicely printed, with portrait; a second series of "The Gentle Life," uniform with the first series; "A Biography of Admiral Sir B. P. V. Broke, Bart.," by the Rev. John G. Brighton, Rector of Kemp Town; "A Dictionary of Photography," on the basis of Sutton's Dictionary, rewritten by Professor Dawson, of King's College, editor of the *Journal of Photography*, and Thomas Sutton, B.A., editor of "Photograph Notes," with numerous illustrations; "Milton's Complete Poetical Works, with a Concordance and Verbal Index," by W. D. Cleveland, a new edition in one vol.; "House and Home in Belgium," by Blanchard Jerrold, author of "At Home in Paris;" "Faith Gartney's Girlhood," by author of "The Gay-worthys," with coloured frontispiece; &c.

MESSRS. DEIGHTON, BELL, and Co., of Cambridge, have in the press "An Elementary Treatise on Solid Geometry," by W. S. Aldis, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge; "An Elementary Treatise on Astronomy, for the Use of Colleges and Schools, and Students preparing for the three days' examination in the Senate House," by P. T. Main, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; "An Elementary Treatise on Geometrical Conic Sections," by W. H. Besant, M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge; "The Aulularia of Plautus, with notes critical and exegetical, and an introduction on the Plautian Metres and Prosody," by Dr. Wm. Wagner; "A Revised Edition of Verses and Translations," by C. S. C., and a volume of "Translations," by the same, from Homer, Virgil, and Horace. "The Architectural History of Glastonbury Abbey," by Rev. R. Willis, F.R.S., Jacksonian Professor, with illustrations; "Kent's International Law," with recent cases, by J. T. Abdy, LL.D., Regius Professor of Civil Law; a cheaper edition of Dean Goodwin's Memoir of Bishop Mackenzie; and a volume of "Missionary Life among the Zulus," from the Letters and Journals of the late Mrs. Robertson; "Words of Comfort for the Sick and Weary," by John Morris.

MESSRS. BELL and DALDY have in preparation an edition of Miss Procter's Poems, with numerous illustrations by eminent artists, and a portrait by Jeens; "Shadows of the Old Book-sellers," by Charles Knight; "The Great Works of Raphael," a series of twenty photographs of his finest works, from choice engravings, with descriptions, and Vasari's "Life of Raphael;" an abridgment of Miss Strickland's "Lives of the Queens of England," in one volume, for schools; Homer's Odyssey, rendered into English blank verse by the Rev. G. Musgrave, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford, in 2 vols. 8vo.; Homer's Iliad, Books I. to XII., by F. A. Paley, forming a new volume of the "Bibliotheca Classica;" Mr. Gilbert's "Logic of Banking, History and Principles of Banking, and Banking in Ireland;" a new edition of Flaxman's "Lectures on Sculpture," with numerous engravings, forming a volume of Bohn's Illustrated Library; Coleridge's "Friend," a reprint of the original edition (in Bohn's Standard Library); the second volume of Mr. Long's "Decline of the Roman Republic;" a new edition of Chaucer, edited from a collation of various MSS., by R. Morris; a third volume of the "Dublin Afternoon Lectures;" a "Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms," by Archdeacon Smith, and a volume of "Common Words with Curious Derivations," by the same; a "Handbook of Archaeology—Egyptian, Greek, Etruscan, and Roman," with numerous illustrations, by Hodder M. Westropp, Esq.; a "Dictionary of Noted Fictitious Persons and Places," by W. A. Wheeler, M.A.; a volume of poems by A. J. Munby; an elegant edition of Shakespeare, by Keightley, in six pocket volumes; a revised and corrected reprint of the "Aldine Poets," complete.

## ARCHÆOLOGICAL PAPERS.

*Reports and Papers of the Architectural Societies of the Counties of York, Lincoln, Bedford, Worcester, and Leicester, for A.D. 1864.*

THE learned bodies whose reports have now for fourteen years issued from the press in a collected form, act wisely in gathering their contributions into a common volume, rather than issuing them, according to the old-fashioned method, as separate pamphlets. This latter plan, which is still followed by many minor societies, prevents the really valuable contributions to local history that are frequently compiled by provincial antiquaries from becoming known to the general public, or taking their place as books of reference on the library shelves.

The collection before us consists of fourteen tracts, and some reports and financial statements. A glance at their authors' names alone would indicate, to those acquainted with antiquarian literature, very unequal degrees of value. The perusal of this book, or any other volume of the series, leads to curious speculations as to the reason why Yorkshire and the other counties into which the old kingdom of Northumbria has been broken up are so much more highly favoured in their archæological labourers than their Mercian or still more southern neighbours. This has been an observed fact from the days of Dodsworth and Burton downwards. The same law still rules, and was never more painfully obvious than at the present time. There is really nothing southern in the whole volume, except Mr. John Gough Nichols' notes on Merevale Abbey, that might not have been compiled from everyday books by an ordinary National School master, and very much that such a functionary should have been heartily ashamed of having written. But the papers are not simply stupid and trashy. If they were, like that on Nuremburg tokens, mere common-place verbosity in the garb of learning, those who are acquainted with the minor antiquarianisms of the age would see little cause for remark. When, however, we find a lecture, delivered before what the newspapers called "the largest gathering of a literary nature that ever took place in the county of Nottingham," professing to treat upon one of the turning-points in the history of English freedom, dealing in all the cant and misstatement of the eighteenth century, and yet assuming to be, not the hustings speech of some Tory alderman, fresh from a first perusal of the elder Disraeli's "Commentaries on the Reign of Charles I.," but the grave utterances of a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, who is also the honorary secretary of the Lincolnshire Architectural Society, and the editor of the common volume, we feel either that party politics yet corrupt the stream of history at its source, or that the very little study necessary to produce a rational half-hour's gossip concerning "The Raising of the Royal Standard of War at Nottingham," was thought unnecessary by one whose frequent habit of lecturing "country parsons" has no doubt yielded peculiar opportunities for calculating the exact quantity of fact and the precise amount of seriousness that are required by those whose special line it is to give the upper classes oral instruction in history.

Nottingham Castle has frequently been prominent in our annals. Its connexion with the first act in the great drama of our civil war will alone make it a memorable place for ever. The material fabric where Charles and his cavaliers abode, and on whose topmost tower the royal battle-standard first waved, has long passed away; and the seventeenth-century ducal palace which afterwards crowned the rock where the old fortress stood is now an ugly ruin, like a disused factory, remarkable only as a memento of the violence of a mob and the political shortsightedness of a former Duke of Newcastle. It is a grave misfortune for all who value local history, that no competent person has yet given us a good



account of the Castle and the old Saxon burgh of Snotingham, which nestled around its precipitous rock; but it is far better that the records of past ages should remain for a time unexplored than that the little light we now possess should be darkened, and its feeble rays distorted, to suit the fancies of a few ladies and gentlemen whose only idea of English history, to quote the words of an eminently orthodox authority, is that its records should prove the excellency of the British Constitution, and illustrate the beauties of the Book of Common Prayer. The vagueness of Mr. Trollope's style is such that, beyond a deep reverence for, and strong partizan feeling in favour of, "one of the most religious of our kings," it is difficult to say exactly what his opinions are on any of the thousand points connected with our great war of independence. This much, however, seems certain, that he wished his hearers to believe that the gentry were almost entirely on the side of the King, and that, as a rule, only those of unknown or impure pedigree thought freedom worth fighting for. This idea, if it were true, would be a strong argument against many of the feelings which wellborn persons most fondly cherish; but it is obviously not only a simple mistake, but one which just reverses the real facts of the case. The gentry, using that term loosely, were perhaps nearly equally divided, but the men of old family and distinguished ancestry were mostly on the side of liberty. This was markedly so in Yorkshire, where we are told that "the noblemen and gentlemen were for the most part very loyally disposed." Is it possible that the names of Constable, Hotham, Rokeby, Fairfax, and Strickland are not familiar to Mr. Trollope? We should have thought it quite impossible to have represented Lincolnshire as a loyal shire, but even this is endeavoured in a note, where we are led to believe that the gentry of the largest of the associated counties—the very stronghold of Puritanism—actually assembled and passed a certain loyal resolution, and subscribed their names to the record.

Mr. Trollope quotes this wonderful paper without any indication as to where he found it, or anything more than a most vague idea of its probable date. It is set forth as a document in which "the gentry of Lincolnshire" promise to furnish horses for the Royal service. As there is no word of note or illustration of any kind, we are left to conclude that this is really something like a muster-roll of the country squires. Those who know anything about the local history of that region will, however, be at once aware that such a list in no way indicates the then popular feeling. It does not, in fact, when given in full, in any way pretend to do so. Its title is "Mr. Charles Dallison, Recorder of Lincoln, His Speech to the King's Majesty," and at the end is given a list of certain persons—gentlemen and yeomen—who had agreed to have in readiness "Horse furnished fit for warre." They did not profess in any way to represent the feeling of the county generally, and there is no evidence that the signing of the original document, if indeed it ever was signed, was in any sense a public act. There are very strong grounds for believing that the lecturer who uses it thus confidently in support of his Cavalier prejudices had never seen an original copy, but had contented himself with a modernized and imperfect transcript. The grounds on which we have come to this conclusion are clear enough, but, owing to minute facts on which the evidence rests, are not very readily understood without a reprint. The fact, however, that in Mr. Trollope's note the list is quoted as without date—the vague words "about this time" is the phrase used—coupled with the circumstance that several of the names are reproduced in a nineteenth-century garb, and that one of the most important persons, Mr. Christopher Berisford, who was made prisoner by the Earl of Manchester at the taking of Lincoln, May 6, 1644, along with Sir Charles Dalison, the Recorder, and divers other prominent Royalists, is left out

of the catalogue altogether—make such a conclusion irresistible.

There can be no excuse for persons who endeavour to instruct others on such matters being ignorant of the materials from which they profess to draw their information. Difficulty of access, even, cannot be pleaded on this occasion, for there are several editions of the original—one, a handbill among the Society of Antiquaries' broadsides; two others, a folio sheet and a quarto tract, among the King's pamphlets in the British Museum. They are all, with the exception of a few misprints, verbally the same. The Somerset House copy fixes the day of the month on which it was issued. The imprint runs thus: "London, printed for William Gay, and are to be sold at his Shop, in Hosher-lane, at the signe of the Axe, August 3, 1642."

If Mr. Trollope had really been anxious to furnish his readers with a list of the Lincolnshire Cavaliers, he might have compiled one pretty nearly perfect from Dring's "Catalogue of Compounders," and the acts of Parliament for confiscating delinquents' estates; but such a list would show the nakedness of the land in a manner which those who take their views of family history from the "Peerage," and Burke's "Commoners," little dream of. A few minutes' study of the list of peers and commoners indicted at Grantham by Sir Peregrine Bertie and Sir John Brooks (see Brit. Mus. Cat. sub voc., Brooks, Sir John) would convince anyone whose mind was open to conviction that the gentle blood of the county was then, as now, on the side of liberty and progress. The old families whose names were connected with the history of England from the days of Agincourt and the Wars of the Roses are here found, not promising what they would do, but indicted for what they had already done, in their country's service. Not to speak of lesser names, or those only known to the local antiquary, we find the two most powerful peers in the county, Theophilus Clinton, Earl of Lincoln, and Francis Willoughby, Lord Willoughby of Parham, at the head of the list, and among the lesser men, Sir Edward Ayscough, and Edward Skipwith, whose families shared the honour of connexion, the one by blood, the other by marriage, with Anne Ayscough, the illustrious Protestant sufferer, whose martyr death at Smithfield sheds a lurid glory over the darkest page of Tudor history. The name of Mr. Trollope's own ancestor, Sir Thomas Trollope, the first baronet, stands nearly at the beginning of the list.

To pass from the great Puritan era of the "forty-two" to 1143, when Roger de Mowbray founded the abbey of the "blessed Mary of Byland," is as great a change as Christian annals could present; but it is not greater than the difference between the vague generalities we have criticized and the learned and beautiful paper with which the historian of Fountains has adorned the volume. Here every word tells and just fits its place like stones in well-jointed masonry. In a space of little more than fourteen pages, Mr. Walbran has succeeded in giving us a history of the Cistercian house of Byland far more complete than anything we before possessed. It will be the standard article for popular reference until the histories of the Yorkshire abbeys now in progress by certain northern antiquaries shall have superseded it and all other publications on this interesting portion of our national annals. Mr. Walbran's description of the battle of Hexham—a border-skirmish far more noteworthy in many of its results than greater conflicts which have made a name in history—is well worthy of notice:—

On the 20th of September, when King Edward the Second was at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the Scottish invaders besieged Norham Castle. He was unable to contend with them, and betook himself southward, first to Durham, and then to Barnard Castle; whence he issued writs directing levies to meet him at Blackhow-the-Moor, to the north of us, where it was proposed to have a muster of his army. Three days after he was at Forcet; on the 8th and 11th of October he

was at Yarm, and no doubt very soon after arrived here. The chronicler of Lanercost says that after the King of Scotland had committed extensive ravages on the Borders, he proceeded into England towards "Blakehoumor," not only because he had previously left that part of the country unvisited, on account of the difficulty of approaching it, but also because he was informed by his spies that the King of England was there. Hearing of his approach, King Edward ordered the Earl of Carlisle and others to send to him levies of horse and foot; and by the aid of the Earl of Lancaster, thirty thousand men were mustered, and marched to him through the west part of the country, so that they might be unperceived by the enemy. Meanwhile, the Scots had burnt many towns and manors in "Blakehoumor;" had committed all the waste within their power, and taken many prisoners, together with a booty of cattle and other property. The issue was hurried on unexpectedly; for King Edward, having sent on the Earl of Richmond with a body of men to watch the movements of the enemy from the high ground between the abbeys of Byland and Rievaulx, commanding most extensive prospects, was surprised by the Scots coming suddenly upon him. Resistance could only be effected by hurling down stones on them as they approached by a narrow and difficult pass in the mountain side. The Scots, however, rushed forward with ferocious intrepidity, took the Earl prisoner, with many of his men, and drove the rest before them. When the news of the discomfiture was brought to the King, he was, as the chronicler says, in Rievaulx Abbey, and at once fled towards York, leaving behind him his silver plate and great treasure. These were at once seized by the enemy, who sacked the abbey, and then, turning towards the Wolds, pillaged and devastated the country far and wide, nearly as far as Beverley, which was saved only from flames through the contribution of its inhabitants. . . . In the church of Ampleforth, three miles hence down the valley, there is a monumental effigy which I fancy commemorates a touching incident of that unfortunate day. At all events, it is one of the most interesting monuments in the country, and it would be a worthy act if the Yorkshire Architectural Society would cause it to be removed from its dark place in the base of the tower to a more suitable position. It represents a warrior, wearing a sleeved surcoat over chain armour, which appears at his wrist and neck, his sword suspended from a belt passing over his right shoulder, and his hands elevated in prayer. His head is uncovered, but instead of resting, as is usual, on a helmet or cushion, it is supported on the breast of a lady, the upper part of whose figure appears, of life size, behind. The workmanship is of inferior character; but, by one of those happy touches of nature which can reach us across the dark gulf of the past, the sculptor recalls such an act of affection as Scott pictures Clare to have rendered to Marmion on the field of Flodden.

We sincerely hope that Mr. Walbran's advice will be heeded by the parish authorities, and that this interesting relic may be preserved from needless decay or wanton violence. Scarcely a day passes without some memorial of former times being effaced by persons ignorant of its value, or, worse still, knowing its interest in the eyes of thoughtful people, but carrying on the work of destruction, so often misnamed *restoration*, at the instigation of those who regard all remains of former days as valueless which do not fit in with their yesterday's dreams on theology or social life.

*Cholera: its Pathology, Diagnosis, and Treatment.* By W. Story, Licentiate of the King's and Queen's College of Physicians, Ireland. Pp. 79. (Spon.)—The author of this little book appears to have had great experience in the treatment of that marvellous and terrible disease, cholera, both in England and India. He is, therefore, right in offering to the public, at the present time, the results of his matured reflections upon the causes of the malady and his opinions as to the best methods of treatment. We do not pretend to express an opinion upon his views on the latter topic. His suggestions appear sensible and practical, and for the most part easy of execution, which is saying a good deal for them. We fear that we cannot speak so favourably of the hypothesis by which he endeavours to account for the origin of the disease. Many of his speculations appear to us to be utterly wild and improbable, and there is a lack



of scientific accuracy in the arguments and illustrations which he draws from the classical researches of Graham, Tyndall, and other physicists. One valuable feature in the book is the prominence which the author gives to the reduction of temperature in the body which so frequently accompanies cholera. There can be no doubt that it is closely connected with the disease, either as cause or effect, and the arguments which he founds upon it seem worthy of careful consideration.

*A Compendium of Domestic Medicine.* By John Savory, Member of the Society of Apothecaries, London. Seventh Edition. (Churchill.)—Most people are interested in the nature and effect of the various substances used in medicine, and to all who are so this little book will commend itself. The first hundred and seventy pages of it are occupied in a clear and concise account of the drugs most in vogue, with the complaints for which they are employed, and the appropriate doses. Apart from its absolute utility, this part of the work will be prized by many as enabling them to find out for themselves what medicine the physician, with his strange hieroglyphic-covered slip of paper, has given them. Other useful medical details follow—such as antidotes for poisons, methods for fumigation, observations on bathing, and remarks on mineral waters, and such like. All are clearly written, although we cannot but object slightly to the guide-book style of the last. The next section is devoted to a simple account of common diseases, from chilblains to cholera morbus, and intelligible directions are given in each case as to the treatment to be adopted. The last pages of the book might, we think, have been omitted with advantage, as they give something of the character of a trade advertisement to what should be regarded a valuable, although unpretending, little work.

#### THE AMENOGRAPH.

AMONG the scientific novelties exhibited at the meeting of the British Association which has just concluded its session at Birmingham, there was an instrument invented and patented by Mr. S. B. Howlett, of the War-office, by means of which winds, from the gentlest breeze up to the most furious storm, can be made to record their own direction and force in the form of a diagram on paper. In other words, the instrument has only to be set up in an exposed position, and left to itself during the continuance of a breeze or storm, and it will present an observer with an accurate map, drawn to a scale, of what the winds have been doing. Their direction is shown to a degree, and their strength is measured to half an ounce, and this with unerring precision.

Our readers have first to picture to themselves a box of stout tin or zinc in the shape of a pyramid. Through an opening at the apex or point of the pyramid a long tube passes, which reaches within two inches of the bottom of the box; it is slung, however, by an apparatus called on board ship a *gympal* to a collar in the opening, and the nature of this *gympal* being something that of a universal joint, the rod or tube hangs freely, and will swing like a pendulum, only with this difference, that it will swing in any direction. To the lower end of this tube, a weight of lead is fixed, so that it takes considerable force to move the pendulum from a perpendicular position, and we would have our readers bear in mind that very much more force is needed to move the pendulum far from the perpendicular than to move it a little way. Thus Mr. Howlett thought that if he could in any way get the winds to move his pendulum, they would make it swing as far as their strength permitted; and that, if he could record how far and in what direction the pendulum swung, he could find out how strong the wind was, and which way it blew. Accordingly, a sphere was fixed to the top part of the tube, outside the box, for the winds to blow against, and so move the swinging weight; and a weighted pencil was dropped into the tube, which, moving with the tube, and sliding out by its own weight just as far as was necessary, marked on a piece of paper exactly how far and in what direction the pendulum moved. Here was a solution of the main part of the problem. Further, Mr. Howlett found that, in obedience to a law known to natural philosophers, a sphere intended to present to the air-currents an effective resisting surface of one square foot must be made, so as to have what is called a *great circle* of two square feet;

and he has accordingly provided for this. Thus, supposing we want to ascertain the direction of the wind and its pressure on a square foot, we should have only to put on a globe with a great circle of two square feet; and having then set one side of the square base of the instrument on the meridian, and put a sheet of paper under the pencil, we should have to do no more than leave the instrument for a minute, an hour, or a day, just as we might choose; and on going to look at its doings it would present us with a series of looped lines, showing at once, by their direction, the quarter from which the wind had been blowing, and showing also, on the application of a scale, its pressure in pounds and ounces.

The whole instrument is made of a convenient size for use, on a portable tripod stand, and is proposed by its inventor not merely as an observatory instrument (though well adapted for such a purpose), but as it were as a field instrument, by means of a few of which, at different stations, the actual course and the lines of greatest violence of a storm, or even of a light wind, might be unerringly laid down.

#### SCIENCE.

##### BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

*Report on the best means of providing for a Uniformity of Weights and Measures, with reference to the Interests of Science.*—At the meeting of the British Association, held in Newcastle in 1863, a Committee was appointed to report on the best means of providing for a uniformity of weights and measures, with reference to the interests of science, and a report embodying certain recommendations was presented at its last meeting. The substance of these recommendations was, the adoption of a decimal system of weights and measures, and the choice of the metric system, on account of its scientific capabilities; the use of such metric system, as far as possible, in statistical documents and scientific communications; the placing of metric standards in our public and frequented buildings; the teaching of the system in schools; and the use of it at the Custom-house and Post-office. On the recommendation of the section the Committee was then re-appointed, and a grant was made to it of 20*l*.

In furtherance of the object remitted to them, the Committee met and passed resolutions recommending the preparation of a small book for elementary instruction in the metric system, and the appointment of a deputation to the President of the Board of Trade, for the purpose of representing to Her Majesty's Government the advantages of reducing the tariff in the terms of the metric system, allowing importers of goods from countries using that system to pay duties calculated by the same; and also a deputation to the President of the Committee of Council on Education, recommending the teaching of the metric system in schools supported by the State. It has been suggested, however, that the Committee had no power to do more than to report again on the subject to the Association, since the report of its Committee was only discussed and adopted in Section F, and not by the General Committee, and therefore it was deemed best to seek from the meeting more definite power on the subject.

The Committee have pleasure in reporting that the necessity of introducing uniformity in weights and measures throughout the country is generally admitted, and that there is little or no difference of opinion as to the superior merits of the metric system, as the only method for obtaining not only a thorough reform in our weights and measures, but also the great desideratum of international uniformity. By the Act of Parliament passed in 1864 the use of the metric system in this country was legalized, and thenceforth a contract has become equally enforceable whether in the terms of the metric system or in the terms of the imperial standards. Since, however, the use of the same is at the present optional, and not compulsory, much remains to be done, not only in recommending the practical adoption of the metric system in the different branches of business and industry, but also in disseminating the necessary teaching of the same, especially in schools and colleges.

The Committee have learnt that the metric system is already in use in many great establishments. Those especially who supply machinery to the Continent of Europe are under the necessity of using the metric measurement in fulfilling their orders, and it does not appear that the workmen in such establishments have any difficulty in understanding the system, and in using it with as much readiness as the imperial scale.

Since the last meeting of the British Association, the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, at their meeting in Birmingham, had a favourable opportunity for discussing the question, a paper having been prepared for them by Mr. John Fernie, a member, on the relative advantages of the inch and the metre as the unit of a decimal line or measure. On that occasion, Sir William Armstrong, Mr. C. W. Siemens, F.R.S., and Mr. Robinson, of the Atlas Works, all practically acquainted with both systems, recorded their opinion decidedly in favour of the metre; and though in accordance with the rules of that institution no resolution was passed, there is reason to believe that a large number of members were of opinion that the metric system was in every way preferable. Another important testimony in favour of that system was also given by a committee of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, specially appointed on the decimalization of coins, weights, and measures. That Chamber, in common with many other Chambers of Commerce, petitioned Parliament in favour of the Bill since passed into law; and now, after mature inquiry, we find a committee of that Chamber recommending the ultimate adoption, and at no distant period, of the metric system of weights and measures as the sole legal system in this country. The teachers are also moving. At a meeting of professors, teachers, and others interested in education held in Birmingham, on Wednesday, the 15th of March, 1865, Rev. Charles Evans, M.A., Head Master of King Edward's Grammar School, in the chair, it was unanimously decided: "That, having regard to the merits of the metric system of measures and weights now legalized in this country by Act of Parliament, to the facility with which it may be learnt and afterwards retained in the memory, to the great saving of time which would thereby be gained in education, to the convenience it offers for the largest as well as the most minute calculation, and to the decided advantages of the decimal method in any arithmetical system, this meeting is of opinion that the metric system of measures and weights should be introduced as a branch of instruction in the schools of the United Kingdom." At a meeting of British teachers connected with the British and Foreign School Society in the Borough Road, London, the same question was discussed, and there is no doubt that the teachers see the importance of giving instruction in a system which will speedily replace the present uncouth practice. What is now wanted for the purpose of education is a book sufficiently elementary yet complete in itself, likely to be used as a text-book in all schools and colleges. Several books on arithmetic already give considerable prominence to the decimal and metric system. More especially we may mention the treatises on arithmetic by the Rev. Barnard Smith, Mr. Dowling's Comparative Tables, and also the useful Ready Reckoner published in this town by Mr. Rickard, the able teacher in King Edward's School. In Continental schools M. Carpentier's "Necessaire Metrique," which is a small cabinet containing samples of all the smaller weights and measures, the cubes, &c., is largely used, and there is no doubt that the children on the Continent obtain much more early in life an accurate knowledge of numbers, their properties, and their combinations, with the metric system than the English boys do with the imperial scale.

Nowhere could we see more clearly the need of altering the present practice than in the practical routine work in railway management. With the enormous traffic of our railway companies, the inconvenience of the present subdivision of weights produces a decided appreciable loss to the income of the shareholders. For example, the London and North-Western Railway, whose annual income equals the entire revenue of the majority of European States, sends out to every station in the Empire some thousands of packages of all sizes, many exceedingly small, and nearly all having fractions of weights. At the head station in Camden Town, nearly 1,200 entries are made of such packages every day, and they are sent to the station in the course of the day, and despatched on the same evening. Before they are sent, however, they must nearly all be weighed or measured, and taxed at a great variety of rates. But great is the liability and error arising from our cumbrous system when the calculations are to be performed in a hurried manner. It is, in fact, calculated that on an average the clerks commit one error in every 500 items; and the consequence is that the London and North-Western Company are under the necessity of nearly doubling the number of



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clerks. For every 100 clerks employed in weighing, or measuring, and taxing packages, nearly another 100 are wanted to correct the errors committed. But with a decimal and metric system this liability to error is immensely reduced, and therefore a practical economic benefit would certainly arise from the adoption of that system in railway traffic. A Royal Commission has been recently appointed on railway management, and they are to inquire into the more economical arrangements for the working of railways, so as to make a considerable reduction in the cost of conveyance. This is a favourable opportunity for calling attention to the question, and the Committee are pleased to find that the Council of the International Decimal Association have offered to give evidence before the Commission on the subject.

As a practical mode for diffusing information on the metric system it has been suggested to fix the metric standards in one or more frequented places in the leading commercial cities of the empire. The Act for rendering permissive the use of the metric system did not provide for the introduction of standards, it only furnished a table of equivalents of the metric and imperial systems; but it would be highly desirable to furnish the people with the means of ascertaining the accuracy of the metric weights and measures used by comparison with certain authorized standards. The great want, however, seems to be a department of government as was recommended by the Committee of the House of Commons, whose duty it should be to procure such standards, and to superintend the necessary arrangements for the security of trade and the diffusion of sound information on the subject. Till recently the control of the imperial standards was in the hands of the Comptroller of the Exchequer, but since that office has been abolished and incorporated with the Audit-office, it has become almost imperative to establish such a department. It would be desirable that such a department should supervise the examination and comparison of the weights and measures in use throughout the country, superintend the inspectors now appointed by the municipal councils of each town, and more especially issue such tables, books, and specimens of the metric system as will diffuse information of the same throughout the country. This is the plan which has been adopted with great success wherever the metric system has been established. And we are glad to find that the Committee of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce has recommended the same course in the following resolution: "That a department of government of weights and measures should be established, subordinate to the Government and responsible to Parliament, to whom should be entrusted the conservation and verification of the standards, the superintendence of inspectors, and the general duties incidental to such department. That these duties should especially include the use of all means for promoting the use and extending the knowledge of the metric system among the people."

The Committee have observed with much pleasure that in several scientific communications, in the transactions of the Royal Society, and some official documents issued by the Government, metric weights and measures (having not then been legalized) are given side by side with the imperial. In many cases, indeed, a decided preference seems to be given to the former, especially in papers on chemical science. It is greatly to be lamented that the Pharmaceutical Society did not adopt the metric system, when, the same not being then legal, settling a new pharmacopœia; the mixed system they have adopted was far from meeting general approbation, and they will be under the necessity of making a new change.

In foreign countries the principal movement in favour of the metric system is in Germany. For some time past the different German States have been labouring towards the attainment of greater uniformity; and, after having come to an agreement about the coinage, they have given their attention to the state of the weights and measures. In 1862 a conference was held at Frankfort for the purpose, when official delegates were present from nearly all the principal States except Prussia, and after much discussion they recommended the adoption of the metric system. But so long as Prussia kept aloof no decision could be arrived at. Since then, however, the proceedings of the International Statistical Congress held at Berlin, regarding international units, had due influence on the Prussian Government, and it is expected that the opposition of that Government may have thereby been overcome. Another meeting of the same Congress of

delegates from German States has just been held at Frankfort, with the presence of Prussian delegates, and we trust to hear speedily of the unanimous resolution in favour of the adoption of the metric system.

Though the instructions of this Committee are confined to weights and measures, and do not include coins, the Committee are convinced that the advantage of the metrical and decimal system will not be fully realized until the coins also and mode of accountancy are decimalized.

In conclusion, the Committee recommend the re-appointment of this Committee with power to use such measures as they may deem expedient for promoting the extensive use of the metric system in scientific and official documents, in the Custom-house and Post-office, as well as the teaching of the system in schools and colleges; with instructions also, as regards the coinage, to represent to Her Majesty's Government the expediency of the early adoption of such a system of decimalization as will the more effectively facilitate the social and commercial transactions of the country, and at the same time advance the great purpose of international exchanges, and especially to urge upon Her Majesty's Government the great benefit that would arise from the early assembling of an international monetary convention, as recommended at the last meeting of the International Statistical Congress, held at Berlin.

#### Section A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

*On a Special Class of Questions on the Theory of Probabilities.* By Professor Sylvester.—After referring to the nature of geometrical or local probability in general, the author of the paper drew attention to a particular class of questions partaking of that character, in which the condition whose probability is to be ascertained is one of pure form. The chance of three points within a circle or sphere being apices of an acute or obtuse-angled triangle, or of the quadrilateral formed by joining four points, taken arbitrarily within any assigned boundary, constituting a re-entrant or convex quadrilateral, will serve as types of the class of questions in view. The general problem is that of determining the chance that a system of points, each with its own specific range, shall satisfy any prescribed condition of form. For instance, we may suppose two pairs of points to be limited respectively to segments of the same indefinite straight line: the chance of their anharmonic ratio being under or over any prescribed limit will belong to this category of questions, to which, provisionally, the author proposed to attach the name of form-probability. In questions of form-probability, in which all the ranges are either collinear segments or coplanar areas, or defined portions of space, rules may be given for transforming the data, so as to make the required probability depend on one or more probabilities of a simpler kind, leading to summations of an order inferior by two degrees to those required by the methods in ordinary use. Thus Mr. Woolhouse's question relating to the chance of a triangle within a circle or sphere being acute can be made to depend upon an easy simple integration—the solutions heretofore given of this problem involving complicated triple integrals. It was shown, as a further illustration, that the form-probability of a group of points all ranging over the same triangle remains unaltered when the range of one of them is limited to any side of the triangle chosen at will; and again (for convenience of expression distinguishing the contour into a base and two sides) will be the mean of the two probabilities resulting from limiting one point to range over either side with uniform probability, and simultaneously there-with a second point of the group over the base, with a probability varying as its distance from that end of the base in which it is met by the side. An analogous rule can be given for transforming the form-probability of a group limited to any the same parallelogram. So again for a group of points ranging over a plane figure bounded by any curvilinear contour. The problem may be transformed by supposing two of the points of the group to range on the contour itself, according to a law which may be expressed by saying that the probability of their being found on any arc shall vary as the product of the segment included between the arc and its chord, multiplied by the time of describing the arc about any centre of force arbitrarily chosen within or upon the contour: a theorem which, accepting the idea of negative probability, admits also of extension to the case of a centre of force exterior to the contour.

Among other problems which the author

readily resolves by aid of his principle of transformation, may be mentioned that of determining the mean value of a triangle whose angles are taken at random anywhere within a given triangle, parallelogram, ellipse, or ellipsoid. In this description of questions a peculiar difficulty arises, from the fact that the figure which is to be integrated in order to determine the numerator of the fraction which gives its mean value must be always taken positive; whereas its algebraical expression will repeatedly change its sign, according to a more or less complicated law. This quality of the analytical exponent of the arithmetical value of the figure, constitutes in fact a sort of polarization which has to be got rid of, and the depolarizing process is effected with great ease by virtue of the simplified form impressed upon the data by the method set forth in the paper.

The author further took occasion briefly to allude to the form in which his own problem of four and Mr. Woolhouse's problem of three points were originally proposed—viz., in each case without a specified boundary—and to express his opinion that the principle which had been applied to them, and in which he had formerly acquiesced, was erroneous, as it could be made to lead to contradictory conclusions, and must be abandoned. He was strongly inclined to believe that, under their original form, these questions do not admit of a determinate solution.

*On the Heat Attained by the Moon under Solar Radiation.* By Mr. J. P. Harrison.—On the assumption that the moon's crust is constituted geologically like the earth, different parts of her surface would not attain the same degree of heat. Nearly two-thirds of the hemisphere turned towards us is honeycombed with gigantic craters, and covered with the debris of stupendous volcanic eruptions of the whole. That region should, therefore, absorb less heat, in proportion to its reflecting properties. On the other hand, the greater portion of the dark surface of the moon would absorb and radiate heat in the inverse ratio to their non-reflecting surfaces. The whole surface of the moon being exposed in turn for from about thirteen to rather more than sixteen days to the solar rays, in speaking of the heat which our satellite attains it must not be considered that equal surfaces illuminated—e.g., at the first and third quarters—are equally heated because so illuminated, or without reference to the duration of the sun's radiation upon them. On the contrary, at the day of first quarter, the region of the moon which has received the rays of the sun for a mean period of nearly three and three-quarter days, after being subjected to the most intense cold during the moon's long night, has been gradually warming up to the time it completes its first quarter; the region opposite the earth having received the heat of the sun's rays for only about four-and-twenty hours—a period manifestly insufficient for any surplus heat to have been absorbed, even if the region had been favourable for storing radiant heat. At the period of last quarter, on the other hand, the surface illuminated will have been heated twice as long as at the first quarter—namely, for a mean duration of seven and a-half days—and not only so, but at the time when the moon completes her third or last quarter, a similar surface to that at first quarter will have received the heat of the sun's rays for 360 in place of twenty-four hours, with this additional peculiarity, that the surface generally will be a good absorber of heat. The heat of the moon at the last quarter might, on like grounds, be shown to be greater, or certainly not less, than at the full. It will be sufficient, however, to point out that at the period of maximum heat, that portion of the moon's fully-illuminated hemisphere opposite to us, and which radiates heat directly towards the earth, is not heated so intensely at the full as at the last quarter, or for a day or so after that phase. The ratio in favour of the latter portion being nearly two to one, whilst the ratio in favour of the last quarter compared with a corresponding region in the first quarter is rather more than fifteen to one; the measure being the duration of solar radiation, without reference to the surfaces on which it falls.

The author exhibited a curve of the mean temperature at Greenwich for fifty years, showing that the period of the greatest heat of the lunar surface synchronized with the period of greatest monthly cold in the terrestrial atmosphere, and conversely.

#### Section B.—CHEMICAL SCIENCE.

*On the Action of Light upon Sulphide of Lead, and its Bearing upon the Preservation of Paintings in Picture Galleries,* was read by Dr. D. S. Price.—The author's attention was directed



to this subject by observing that in the cases in the South Kensington Museum, which are painted with white lead, substances which emitted sulphurous vapours did not cause a darkening of the surface of the case, excepting where it was shielded from the direct influence of light. A number of experiments were then made as to the action of light upon sulphide of lead, produced by the action of sulphuretted hydrogen on lead paint. A board painted white with white lead was exposed for several hours to the action of sulphuretted hydrogen, until the surface had acquired a uniform brown colour. Plates of glass of different colours were then placed upon the painted surface, one portion being at the same time covered with an opaque medium, and another left entirely exposed. The board was then placed facing the light. The glasses employed were red, blue, yellow (silver), violet, and smoke-colour glass. The results exhibited were after an exposure of eight days, and showed that the parts of the board directly exposed to light were bleached; those protected by an opaque medium were not acted upon, while with the glasses of different colours intermediate effects were produced, those of the violet glass being most decided. Drying oils in conjunction with light rapidly bleach sulphide of lead, and boiled oil effects the bleaching still more rapidly. When water colour is used, bleaching takes place, but much more slowly than in the case of oil. After quoting authorities stating that generally light was advantageous to the preservation of pictures, Dr. Price showed a striking illustration of this fact. He had a picture painted, and then exposed it to the action of sulphuretted hydrogen, until it became sadly discoloured, and to all appearance destroyed. Some strips of paper were laid across the picture, so as to cover some parts. The picture thus partially covered, and after having been exposed to light for a long time, was exhibited. The parts of the picture exposed were perfectly restored, while those protected by the paper remained still discoloured. From his experiments, the author came to the conclusion that it was advantageous to have picture galleries well lighted, especially where, as in towns, the atmosphere was charged with sulphur compounds; and that it was quite a mistake to have curtains placed in front of pictures, with a view to their protection. In the course of his communication, Dr. Price referred to the use of zinc paint for houses, and considered it likely to be acted upon, as the paint was rendered soluble by the acids contained in the atmosphere of towns.

Dr. Voelcker, in connexion with the action of light on colours, referred to a common mode of improving the colour of silks by placing them in the dark after they have become faded.

Professor Abel quoted an instance in which light was essential to the production of colour in the preparation of phosphide of lead by the action of phosphuretted hydrogen on a salt of lead.

Dr. Hoffman observed that blue, which had become faded, when exposed to light assumed its almost original brightness.

Mr. Wallace instanced the fact that some old picture dealers, not very careful of truth, were accustomed to make new pictures look like old ones by the method described. He did not know whether he ought to say so, as it would probably go forth to the public, but it was a fact that the air of South Kensington was purer and better for the preservation of pictures than that of the National Gallery.

#### Section C.—GEOLOGY.

*On Some Ancient Drifts and Old River Beds of Siluria.* By Rev. W. S. Symonds.—The period of the forest bed is not represented by any stratified deposits in the West of England. At that time England was a portion of the continent of Europe, and when the elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, &c., were among the existing animal forms. The first evidence of glacial history in Wales consists in the indications of depression during the marine glacial periods, to the extent of above 2,000 feet. We have evidence that ice action was in full vigour during the period of submergence. Professor Ramsay has described three periods of glaciation in Wales, during the first of which the land was much higher than it is now, and great glaciers filled every valley; secondly, a period of submergence; and thirdly, the time when the land assumed its present aspects, but the cold was much greater than it ever is now in our latitude. Glaciers also formed in this period, and in sweeping down the valleys ploughed out the boulder drift previously deposited. These alternations of level

were brought about gradually, so that long after the higher Welsh mountains were elevated above the water the glacial seas would flow over lower surfaces and above rocks which were not raised into dry land until a later period; and hence we have patches of northern drift, containing boulders and Arctic shells, and which is now found scattered over the counties of Cheshire, Stafford, and Worcester. This drift, however, does not appear west of the Severn, the Silurian drifts of this period being derived from local rock formation. Siluria also contains remains of ancient river drifts and valley gravels formed by the action of rivers carrying a greater volume of water than any of the present streams do. There are well-marked high and low level gravels. Ancient river-terraces may be seen in nearly all the principal valleys of Siluria, and these river-terraces are far better marked in the vales of Siluria than in the more sea-washed, estuarine vale of the Severn.

The President attributed all the drift to the west of the valley, to which he had ventured to apply the term the "Straits of Malvern," to local causes quite distinct from those causes which operated on the straits of Malvern when that portion of the country was under the sea. That there was at one time a great portion of *land-ice* in Wales, he had no doubt whatever; but how far a real glacial deposit existed upon the flank of the Malvern chain must be a matter of discussion. He thought, however, that Mr. Symonds had brought forward sufficiently clear evidence to establish the great facts upon which he insisted—that there was most distinct evidence of great terrestrial glacial action—*purely terrestrial*; and that there were evidences of fluvial action over a period even anterior to the glacial drift.

Professor Phillips had remarked, many years ago, many small valleys at a slope of 18 degrees, and margined in a curious manner. He was much struck by them, and asked Dr. Buckland whether he did not think the action of ice might have had something to do with them. The explanation now attempted seemed so probable on a first view, that he thought it a subject worthy of special study; but he thought the matter should not be considered settled until further proofs were offered.

Sir Charles Lyell was glad to hear that Mr. Symonds had found some phenomena which he referred not to glaciers nor to rivers, but to the action of snow; for he was quite sure, from what was now going on on the Alps, that some very remarkable phenomena which glaciers were called in to explain were really independent of glaciers. He adduced an instance which came under his own observation when he was at one time going up from the Lake of Lucerne; and in reference to this subject, he said he had recently the pleasure of examining in Wales, in the company of Mr. Symonds, specimens of marine shells of existing species at a height of nearly 1,400 feet; and he felt great interest in a communication he had received from Mr. Darbishire the other day, from which it appeared that shells were found on the borders of Cheshire and Derbyshire at a great elevation, so that it was impossible to account for this great elevation—this post-glacial elevation, to which there was nothing, that he knew, equal on the continent of Europe or in North America. It was impossible to account for it by some local causes that lifted up the district and left the neighbouring tract unmoved, unless you introduced similar local action to lift up that part of Cheshire—in the territory of Macclesfield, for example. It was impossible to exaggerate the importance of this matter; for when there were theories of general submergence, for example, such as had been lately started—theories shifting the centre of gravity of the earth in consequence of the great weight of ice which, in the glacial period, was deposited in the Arctic region—that it was such a weight, 5,000 feet or more, equal to 1,000 feet of heavy rock—that it must have had such power of attraction as to have drawn the ocean and caused a submergence. When any theories of that kind were started, they had to consider that if the sea was high enough to submerge mountains in Wales, and from that to Cheshire, all the neighbouring parts—the south of England and France—must also have been under water, as the sea would find the same level everywhere. Therefore the geographical extension of those marine shells lifted up in post-glacial times was of the utmost importance.

*On the Insulation of St. Michael's Mount, in Cornwall.* By Mr. Pengelly, F.R.S.—The author began by describing St. Michael's Mount, which is an island at high tide, but a promontory at

low tide. Its ancient British name signified "the hoar rock in the wood," and as this was no longer an accurate description of it, Mr. Pengelly argued that some change must have taken place in the geography of the district, not only within the human period, but since Cornwall was occupied by a people speaking the language which was tardily supplanted by the Anglo-Saxon. This geographical change had not taken place within the last 2,000 years, because, as he held, this was the island referred to by Diodorus Siculus, who wrote 9 B.C., when he spoke of the people of this country carrying "tin to an island called Ictis, in the front of Britain." The description which Diodorus Siculus gave of Ictis answered so completely to what St. Michael's was at the present day, that little change could have taken place. He dismissed with incredulity the conjecture that the Isle of Wight was the island referred to by the Latin writer. There were two theories with reference to the geographical change which must have taken place since St. Michael's Mount was described as "the hoar rock in the wood." It might have taken place in consequence of the encroachment of the sea. But this theory would demand a belief that at least 20,000 years ago Cornwall was inhabited by men who spoke a language which prevailed in that district till within a very few centuries of our time, and which, from its near resemblance to what the Anglo-Saxons called Welsh, might be said to be spoken within our island still. For this and other reasons he rejected the theory of the encroachment of the sea, and for various reasons, which he explained at length, he was decidedly of opinion that subsequent to a period when Cornwall was inhabited by a race speaking the British language, St. Michael's Mount was a "hoar rock in the wood," but that it had since become insulated, not from encroachments of the sea, but from a general subsidence of the land.

Sir Charles Lyell thought Mr. Pengelly had made out a good case against encroachment being the only cause that had changed the geographical condition of the country since the human period. What had been said with reference to the testimony of Diodorus Siculus as to the state of that part of the country nearly 2,000 years ago was a most useful warning and check to all speculators on post-Roman changes of level; for if that part of the coast was then so much like its present geography, that implied that a very considerable district also remained unaltered. Yet they had proofs from Sir Henry De-la-Beeche, who was one of the first to call attention to it, that very considerable changes of level had taken place since the old workers in tin carried on their work. There had certainly been a submergence and deposit and re-elevation of parts of the country since that time. The proof, therefore, that so little had been done in 2,000 years became the more interesting when it was found that so much had been done since the human period.

#### Section E.—GEOGRAPHY AND ETHNOLOGY.

*"Simious Skulls."*—Mr. C. Carter Blake read a paper "On Certain Simious Skulls, with especial reference to a Skull from Louth, in Ireland," which was exhibited on the table. He said the skull now exhibited was the property of the Anthropological Society of London. It was presented to their Museum by Captain Montgomery Moore, who obtained it from Louth Abbey, in Ireland. Nothing more is known of its history. The attention which has been drawn, during the last few years, to the celebrated skull from the Neanderthal, in Germany, renders any skull which at all resembles it in its most striking aspects of peculiar interest. M. Pruner-Bey was the first who pointed out the close resemblance between the skull from the Neanderthal and those of existing Irishmen. Professor Wm. King, of Galway, in his comparison of the Neanderthal skull with the more normal examples of human crania, refers frequently to a skull from Corcomroo Abbey, County Clare, Ireland, which, from his description, appears to present some points of affinity with the skull from Louth now exhibited. In commencing the description of the Louth skull, he remarked that it is ovately dolichocephalic. The browridges are large, and the points of muscular attachment are well marked. The "frontal" suture has been early obliterated. No trace whatever exists. The length of the sagittal suture is 11.4 centimetres. Throughout the whole of the posterior two-thirds of its length, obliteration has proceeded to such an extent as entirely to obscure the indications which would have shown its proportions, direction, or serration. The lambdoidal suture is



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present on each side, in an upward direction, for about two inches from its junction with the *additamentum mastoidalis*. The coronal suture offers some points of interest. Partial obliteration has extended throughout the whole of its course, excepting the portion so deeply serrated above the postorbital and temporal ridges. The condition of the sutures around the alisphenoid bone demands our special attention. It is only necessary to say that on the left side the spheno-frontal and spheno-parietal sutures are entirely closed, whilst not the slightest trace exists of their direction. Turning, however, to the right side, the shape of the posterior edge of the alisphenoid becomes manifest. A long narrow tongue of bone extends in front of the squamosal, and is partially confluent with the parietal, especially at the extreme anterior corner of the latter. It has also become, to a less extent, though still definitely, coalescent with the frontal bone. This coalescence is especially interesting, as, although upon the right side of the skull, it has taken place upon a spot apparently free from the erosive action which has taken place on the posterior right portion of the skull. It is only necessary to say that, with respect to the squamous suture, no peculiarities meet the eye of the observer. The connexion between the mastoid and squamosal bones is obliterated to a great extent, but not more so than is usually observable in aged individuals. I now turn to the other characters of the skull. The browridges are exceedingly peculiar. Enormous frontal sinuses have developed a bony bridge, which extends above the eyes throughout the whole length of the supraciliaries, and is thickest and most pronounced immediately below the glabella. The supra-orbital canal on the right side is higher than on the left. Proportionately to the size of the ridge, the supranasal notch does not appear deep. The forehead is rather low and retrocedent, apparently rendered more so by the great size of the supraciliary ridges. The curve of the frontal bone, backwards and upwards, is equable and smooth. When a line from the glabella to theinion is made horizontal, the greatest height of the skull is situated about an inch behind the junction of the sagittal and coronal sutures. When the Abbé Frère's line from the *meatus auditorius* to the centre of the coronal suture is made vertical, the most posterior part of the skull is situated about an inch and a-half lower than the apex of the lambdoid suture, and the same distance above theinion. The line of greatest breadth of the skull will be found in a line drawn from the spot of greatest height to the apex of the mastoid process. The parietal bones are very slightly flattened between the line of the sagittal and the line of attachment of the temporal muscle. The traces of the latter are not remarkably prominent. From the above description of the skull, I consider that the following conclusions can safely be drawn. The contracted forehead is due to the premature closing of the sutures surrounding the alisphenoid bone, and the lower medial part of the coronal suture. In early life, the frontal and alisphenoid bones, being firmly united with the adjacent ones in such a way as to form a bony plate, the same conditions were observed as described by Dr. B. Davis, in his paper on the Neanderthal skull. "It will thus be seen that there is nothing either of a simious character, or that might not have been expected in the low forehead of the Neanderthal skull, in which the brain had to grow and expand under a plate of bone, which appears to have been in a great degree in one solid piece. It was impossible to raise this plate of bone upwards; and the result, as will be seen, was a development to another direction. In the middle region of the calvaria, the sagittal suture being closed, the contained cerebral substance could only expand at the sides, in the situation of the squamous sutures; and here the Neanderthal calvarium seems not to lack development. But in the posterior region its greatest expansion took place, precisely because in this part was the open lambdoid suture, which admitted of the growth of the brain. In the figures of this imperfect calvarium, the superior occipital scale is seen to be bulged out, and the whole of what remains of the occipital bone is full and large—the compensatory result for the contracted anterior regions." The above words, which Dr. B. Davis applies to the Neanderthal skull, can be applied, *mutatis mutandis*, to the skull from Louth. The peculiarities which were alleged to be so specially characteristic of the Neanderthal skull having been proved to be due merely to the premature closing of certain sutures, the fact is not remarkable that such skulls as the specimen, "1,029 of Davis," or as the skull before us, should be en-

countered not unfrequently. Attention having been drawn to the influence which premature closing of the sutures produces on the form of the skull, it is probable that we shall find many other instances. But the occasional occurrence of such cases leads an anthropologist deeply to regret that such an abnormality as the Neanderthal skull should have ever been put forward as an important link in the series of early forms, connecting man with the lower animals, and to hope that a similar error of generalization will not occur again in our science. Although to allude to the Neanderthal skull, in the present state of the controversy, may appear to some a superfluous digression, the lesson cannot be too often insisted on, that in examining a skull purporting to be that of "the missing link" it should have been worth while to have inquired whether its peculiarities were not in some degree traceable to the premature ossification of the structures of the skull.

## Section G.—MECHANICAL SCIENCE.

*Suggestions for Improvements in Blocks for Lowering Ships' Boats.* By Mr. G. Fawcus.—Many accidents happen in lowering boats at sea from a ship's side, owing to the difficulty of unhooking the lower blocks of boat's tackle when there is any weight or strain on the hook.

One of these improvements is the replacing the hook of the ordinary single block, by a cross bar, formed by an eye-bolt falling from a joint on the sheet, and fitting into a cap or socket, with an opening on one side, on the end of another bar; these move between the shells of the block below the sheave, and the socket or cap is turned by a lever, like the handle of a vice-screw; as this lever is moved it turns up or down the opening on the side of the cap, and so secures or disengages the end of the bar, which falls by the pressure of the weight suspended.

The end of the lever can be secured from blows, or accidental catching against anything, by being placed in an eye with an opening on one side, formed on the head of the sheave-pin, and secured there by a keep-ring turning round to the other side of the eye.

The second arrangement suggested is an improvement of the principle of the towing-hook used by the tug steamboats on the Tyne. This consists of a hip-hook working on cross-bearings, on one of which a lever is fitted like a crank between the shell and binding of the block. An elbow-shaped lever, with a bossed hole near the elbow, works round the sheave-pin between the shell and binding-strap, which are kept apart on one side for this purpose. One end of this lever has a catch to secure the end of the crank lever, which moves with the hook; and when the catch is raised by pulling upwards that end of the elbow-shaped lever, the hook either disengages itself, or the other end of the elbow-shaped lever forces forward the upper end of the hook lever, and so disengages the hook in case it should be held by any cause, and not at once give way to the pressure acting on one side of the hook with the bearings on one side of the centre of the block. The movement is also assisted by the expanding curve of the hook. The sides of the shell form guides to prevent any dragging on the hook end, which is also rounded off to ensure the slipping.

## SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

PROFESSOR HAYTER LEWIS, F.S.A., will deliver an introductory lecture on Monday, October 9, at three o'clock, on "The Fine Arts, and their Connexion with Education."

THE *Moniteur* publishes some statistics of the manufacture of beet-rot sugar in France for the season of 1864-5, ending July 31 of the present year. At that date 398 manufactories were in operation, against 366 in July, 1864, and the quantity of sugar produced was upwards of 146,000,000 kilos, an increase of 39,000,000 kilos on last year's yield.

A USEFUL little instrument, called by the inventor a "Topograph," has recently been patented by Mr. Lendy, of Sunbury. It combines a plane table, prismatic compass, level, and clinometer, and seems to be well adapted for making rapid sketch-maps possessing a considerable amount of accuracy, for military or other purposes, where there is not sufficient time for a more extended survey.

WE understand that M. Steinheil, of Munich, and his son, have been working together in the endeavour to produce perfect images with lenses of large opening. They have constructed lenses with a free opening an eighth of the focal

distance. The achromatism is fixed, and of such a kind that the effects of the secondary colours are destroyed. These lenses take an eye-piece having a tenth of an inch focal length. It is said their new eye-pieces and photographic apparatus surpass anything hitherto made.

POUILLET, in 1822, showed that, when a fluid is absorbed by a porous substance, a rise in temperature takes place. That this is not due to chemical action, is proved by the fact that the action takes place between water and sand. The subject has been lately examined by Jungk (*Pogg. Ann.*, No. 6, 1865). He attributes the alteration in temperature to the formation around each particle of the porous body of a thin layer of fluid, "in which the individual molecules move with much less freedom, thus pointing to a condensation of the fluid in those parts." In support of his theory, he quotes a paper by Rose, on the errors which arise in the determination of the specific gravity, when the substance is weighed in a state of fine subdivision. The finer the particles of the body under examination, the greater will be the resulting specific gravity. He proceeds by assuming that the temperature of a body rises or falls when, by any external means, it is caused to assume the condition induced by the subtraction or addition of heat respectively. Applying this in the case of water, it would follow that when it is absorbed by a porous substance, the temperature should either rise or fall according as the water is below or above 4° C.—the point of maximum density. This, in fact, was found to be the case, and the results of his experiments may be shortly stated as follows: 1. The temperature of water, when absorbed by sand, is raised or lowered, according as it was previously either above or below 4° C. 2. Water at 0°, when absorbed by snow, is lowered in temperature. 3. The phenomenon may be regarded as a consequence of the condensation of the water on the surface of the absorbent body.

A RECENT supplement to *The Calcutta Gazette* contains a very interesting report from Mr. Anderson of the damage sustained by the Botanical Gardens during the destructive cyclone of October last. The fury of the storm was greater at the gardens than in the city of Calcutta, since they were nearer the centre of the storm; but it seems to have been principally owing to the "open surface of the river across which the gale at its height blew diagonally, and thus struck the garden with a force unbroken, for the space of a mile, by any obstacle whatever. Few trees fell before 11 o'clock on the 5th October, and almost none after 4.30 p.m. At 4 o'clock the great specimen of *Adansonia digitata*, the Baobab tree of Africa, was uprooted, and fell with a crash that caused vibrations in the earth, which were felt at a distance of some hundred yards. Three gigantic specimens of *Casuarina equisetifolia*, the oldest of the species in the garden, and none of them less than 150 feet in height, fell comparatively early in the storm." It will take years to repair the damage done to these beautiful gardens, and no description can give an accurate idea of it. "The scene in the garden, the morning after the cyclone, was most dismal," says the superintendent. "A thousand trees, many of them gigantic specimens and the pride of the garden, were prostrated, besides innumerable shrubs of which no count could be kept. Nothing had been spared, and those trees that had not fallen were more or less stripped of their branches; some recorded as standing were mere bare poles, without a branch. Not a vestige of a leaf, flower, or fruit remained in the garden." The destruction amongst the smaller plants in pots has been of equal extent, but these losses are of secondary importance compared with the destruction of trees, many of them the growth of three-quarters of a century. Several specimens were only in cultivation in the Calcutta garden, "and some of them are known to botanists only by dried specimens and descriptions of those trees now lost. . . . In the teak avenue, along the road from Kyd's monument to the large bridge over the khal, only two mutilated specimens remain. The trees in this avenue were sixty-nine years old. Out of sixty-seven mahogany trees, thirty-one have been blown down. The mahogany grove, consisting of trees forty-five years old, is destroyed." The cycades and palms, and the endogenous trees generally, seem to have escaped with comparatively little injury. The report, which extends over ten pages of the size of *The London Gazette*, concludes with a detailed list of the trees injured. It appears from this that 1,010 specimens have been totally destroyed.



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WE have received the first part of a new series of the *Journal of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*. The head-quarters of the branch are at Shanghai, but it has languished for some time, owing to the death of the President, the Rev. Dr. Bridgman. It has now been reorganized, and hopes are entertained that the "local branch will not again fall into decay." The part before us contains the following papers: "Notes on the City of Jedo," by R. Lindaw; "Notes on some of the Physical Causes which Modify Climate," by Dr. Henderson; "Narrative of an Overland Trip through Hunan from Canton to Hankow," by Dr. W. Dickson; "The Overland Journey from St. Petersburg to Peking," by A. Wylie; "The Medicine and Medical Practice of the Chinese," by Dr. Henderson; "The Sea-Board of Russian Manchuria," by J. M. Canny. Referring to Dr. Henderson's paper, it may be interesting to Western readers to learn that several medical works have been published in Chinese by Dr. Hobson, at the cost of the British and other foreign merchants. The first volume, that on Physiology, became so very popular, that some persons holding high official rank republished it in Canton. This, in China, is considered an extraordinary mark of respect to the author of a book. Dr. Henderson gives a translation of the Chinese editor's preface, which shows that the medical practitioners of that country are by no means so unwilling to be taught as is generally supposed. The editor says, "Viewed as a means of opening up new trains of thought and stimulating the mind to understand the mode of curing disease, the book itself can scarcely fail to be of service to the members of the profession, and on this account, therefore, I have been induced to give it a place in my collection, and have endeavoured in these prefatory remarks to indicate briefly its merits and defects." These four volumes have also been printed and published in Japan.

THOSE who care to trace the successive steps by which an important manufacture was gradually brought to perfection, should read an interesting article, entitled "Charles Goodyear," in the current number of *The North American Review*. It is a record of the years of suffering and trial which were at length crowned by the discovery of the process of vulcanizing india-rubber. It may, perhaps, be new to many, to learn that Goodyear, "after twenty-seven years of labour and investigation, after having founded a new branch of industry, which gave employment to sixty thousand persons, died insolvent, leaving to a wife and six children only an inheritance of debt." Goodyear's career may be compared with that of Palissy the Potter. Both men had received no scientific training to guide them, both struggled on in spite of every obstacle, and both were ultimately successful. We may, however, remark that the efforts of the English inventors are not noticed in this article.

A PAPER in No. 1,521 of the *Astronomische Nachrichten* gives us the results of Herr Schwabe's sixteen years' work. Like a true philosopher, he as yet draws no conclusions as to the origin of the varied appearances which have been the subject of so much controversy, and he also refrains from speculating on the nature of the sun, preferring to wait until he has more material to work upon. The instruments he uses are small, too small, indeed, for the use of such a man, and, as a consequence, it is only the broad features that are in question in his paper. Schwabe finds:—

1. Spots with penumbra (*behaftete Kernflecke*) having a distinct, dark, sharply-defined, angular nucleus, surrounded by a penumbra, the indentations in which generally correspond with those of the nucleus.

2. Spots (*freie Kernflecke*) with a distinct but indeterminate outline, and no penumbra. These only occur in groups.

3. Punctulations (*Punkte*), shapeless masses not surrounded by a penumbra, which may be made out with a good 24-foot telescope. They generally occur in solitary and sometimes in double patches. He names them *Nebelpunkte* when they surround a solitary spot, and *Zwischenpunkte* when they occur between two spots.

4. Pores (*Poren*.) These he finds to be generally connected together by short lines, and where very numerous they form dull grey spots. They are rather more distinctly seen in the penumbra, and especially in what he calls *Nebel*—large grey irregular patches, often of large extent, and generally intersected by rows of punctulations and single spots destitute of penumbra.

The periodicity of the spots he estimates "provisionally" at ten years. The spots, especially when in large groups, he finds to increase, as a

rule, like the groups themselves on the eastern and to decrease on the western side. The isolated spots, or those which are surrounded by few *Nebelpunkte*, are less variable in their form.

FATHER SECCHI, writing to *Les Mondes* upon the confusion which has arisen on account of the various names given to the things seen on the surface of the sun, proposes to assign the following meanings to the words which have been used: To the term *Granulations*, the round or oval luminous grains of various sizes visible in the sun near the centre. To *Willow-leaves*, the long pointed grains, more tapering at one end than the other, which are visible around the small spots, and on the borders of the large ones. To the *Thatched*, or straw-like appearance, the very thin lines or threads, which form long parallel or convergent rays, covering a large part of the penumbra of the spot, and ceasing at the juncture of the penumbra with the photosphere. To *Currents*, the sinuous line of light which traverses the nucleus, and has almost the appearance of a bridge. To *Rice-grains*, the heaps of small intermedial granulations, visible between the faculae and the small ovoid grains. The instrument with which Father Secchi has made his observations doubles easily the  $\gamma$  of Andromeda, and the  $\xi$  of the Balance.

## SCIENTIFIC CORRESPONDENCE.

## THE GLACIAL SUBMERGENCE.

DR. PRATT having again drawn attention to the letter of Mr. Croll in your number of the 2nd instant, and to my mention of M. Adhemar's work, I shall trouble you with a few further remarks on the subject. Dr. Pratt himself takes an entirely different and quite original view; and these few lines have not any reference to his speculations.

Mr. Croll says, in his paper in the *Philosophical Magazine* for August, 1864, that the precession of the equinoxes and the change in the eccentricity of the earth's orbit, are two causes which together subject the two hemispheres to a slow periodic change of warmer and colder cycles. Thus, taking the case of summer occurring at *aphelion*, as at present, and contrasting the absolute heat derived from the sun in that case with what would be received when the eccentricity was at its maximum, and summer occurred at *perihelion*, he says: "The direct heat of the sun would therefore be one-fifth less during winter than at present, and in summer one-fifth more than at present." But he also adds that "the difference between the heat of summer and winter would in that case be two-fifths greater than at present." I cannot obtain this result in any shape; and as Mr. Croll does not say two-fifths of what, his meaning is obscure. I make the then difference 4.684, or nearly five times the present difference.

I conclude that it is to this change of eccentricity that Mr. Croll refers his long glacial epoch of 100,000 years, in his letter of the 2nd September. Now, he admits (p. 31) that the true effect of the change of eccentricity can only be felt through the unequal distribution of heat to the two hemispheres, owing to the unequal duration of summer and winter at the two hemispheres; and that, not through the different amounts of heat received from the sun, but through the different amounts parted with by radiation. Since, therefore, the mode of action will be similar to that arising from the combined action of the revolution of the major axis of the orbit and the precession of the equinoxes, it will only be necessary to consider the last-mentioned causes, which are those discussed by M. Adhemar.

The simplest way will be to consider what occurs at the two poles themselves, for there the year is divided into one day (summer) and one night (winter). Now, as M. Adhemar remarks, "Sir J. Herschell calls attention to the fact that the presence of the sun during eight days more (the case at present) in the Northern hemisphere does not produce an annual excess of light and heat, because, according to the laws of elliptic movement, it is demonstrated that, whatever be the ellipticity of the orbit of the earth, the two hemispheres ought to receive equal and absolute quantities of heat during the year, the proximity of the sun in perigee exactly compensating for the effect of its more rapid movement" (Adhemar's "Révolutions de la Mer," p. 30). Hence we see that no difference of average annual temperature at the two poles can be arrived at from considerations of the different heating powers of the sun due to the eccentricity of the orbit.

But M. Adhemar also observes that the South Pole at present loses during the year more heat than it receives, "because the entire duration of its nights (*sic, quæ*, night) surpasses that of its days (*quæ*, day) by 168 hours; and the contrary is the case with the North Pole" (p. 37).

Hence he explains the present greater extension of the ice-cap at the South Pole than at the North, and infers a periodic transfer of a glacial epoch from one pole to the opposite at intervals of about 10,000 years.

Now, the justness of this reasoning depends upon the effect of the loss of heat by radiation; and this is the point which really requires strict investigation before the truth of these theories of M. Adhemar and Mr. Croll can be tested. Radiation goes on when the sun is above the horizon, as well as when it is below it. Is it, therefore, true that more heat is, on the whole, parted with by that pole which has the longer night? To this question I believe no satisfactory answer is at hand.

The theories, however, appear, on the whole, so plausible, and to fit so well with some geological phenomena, that one cannot help expecting that they will turn out a true solution of the glacial problem. Most probably Professor Tyndall's discovery of the effect of aqueous vapour in lessening radiation has a share in the result, and one may well conceive that the condensation of vapour during the winter may abstract so much of the natural clothing from the surface as to increase the radiation during that season, and to cause the refrigeration of that hemisphere which has the longer winter to exceed that of the other: and I am far from denying that there may be much truth in Mr. Croll's view, that a colder and longer winter would cause a greater accumulation of snow and ice about the pole under consideration, so that the shorter summer, although the absolute heat of the sun would be greater, would not be able to melt the winter's accumulations, nor to dispel the fogs and clouds which the near proximity of so much snow and ice would occasion.

I have already trespassed too much upon your space, and yet I fear have expressed myself too briefly to be intelligible. But I must still advert to one point in Mr. Croll's letter. He (and likewise M. Adhemar) reason as if the attraction of the earth upon the sea acted as if its mass were collected at its centre of gravity. This is strictly true only so long as the earth is considered spherical, and the centre of gravity is the centre of the figure. But Mr. Croll goes further, and calculates the effect of a cap of ice by substituting for it a cap of equal weight, and of the same density as the earth. This will clearly give a false result, because the attraction of every particle varying inversely as the square of the distance, we are not at liberty to substitute a less bulky mass, and consider its attraction on an external particle equal to that of the more bulky. In the supposed case, it will clearly be less.

This may be considered hypercriticism; but it is important in matters of this kind to reason accurately. O. FISHER.

South Kensington, September 24, 1865.

SURELY in going all the way to the neighbourhood of the Pole Star to find out the cause of glaciations and submergences, Dr. Pratt places himself in a needlessly distant and disadvantageous position. In his letter in *THE READER* of the 23rd, he says: "I believe that further inquiry will show that, instead of depending upon local action, whose cause is seated in the earth, it resolves itself into the effects of a form of gravitation acting from without—most probably from an extremely distant source, occupying the north celestial pole." Further on he says: "Should it ever be recognized and admitted that the accumulation of the land in the northern hemisphere of the earth is the result of gravitation, referrible to a source acting from the north celestial pole . . . it will also be seen that this attraction has acted, and therefore acts, more energetically on the land than upon the water; and that acting upon the earth from without as an attraction will necessarily exercise a greater attracting influence at the North than at the South Pole, seeing that in passing from north to south the earth's axis recedes progressively from its source."

Dr. Pratt's letter is written in an excellent spirit; but he must not expect your readers to go with him so far as to adopt without a little consideration his hypothetical and most heretical attraction, which draws our land away from our water, and in other respects acts in a most un-



# THE READER.

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usual and objectionable manner. For instance: This stella-polaric force not only takes our earth by the hair of the head (so to speak), and drags it nearly out of its clothes; but it gets so exhausted by the effort that it can go very little further, and consequently is quite unable, when it gets to the South Pole, to help in any way to rectify the state of things caused there by its unseemly violence in the North. Hence an enormous accumulation of water there, and general disorder, is the inconvenient result of this foreign intervention.

How very differently do our own sun and moon, and our neighbours generally, use their attraction upon us. They show no great partiality for the land more than for the water; and the water, so far from running away from them, when it sees them, does all it can to get as near them as possible. Besides, attraction from them acts with a force diminishing as the square of their distance only; and the additional distance of the diameter of the earth makes not nearly so much difference to the sun, or even to the moon, as it appears to do in the case of stella-polaris, to whom distance should be of less consequence.

The excess of the sun's attraction is one twelve-thousandth more on the proximal than on the distal hemisphere of the earth. Now any force in the neighbourhood of the Pole Star would, according to the best authorities, act on the earth from a distance more than three million times greater than that of the sun from the earth. Given, the force exerted by this attraction at the North Pole, let anyone calculate the loss it would sustain in travelling, say, eight thousand miles further. How infinitely small would the difference be found, in its action on north and south, of a ray of force which had already travelled the incomprehensible distance between us and the Polar Star! I think we may safely conclude that it could not, in defiance of terrestrial gravitation, produce such an unsettlement of equilibrium between land and water as would, at the extremest perigee or apogee, either float or strand the tiniest little toy-boat that was ever launched from the shores of the Serpentine.

Dr. Pratt asks us to assume too much. We are desired to adopt a hitherto unrecognized force, and to allow a great many new attributes to this force which we deny to all other forces. But even if the existence of this force were conceded, and its unusual powers granted, it would not, so far as I can see, account for periodic glaciation; it could, at most, merely refer to submergences and emergences.

M. Adhemar in his work, "Révolutions de la Mer," first published in 1842, and a second edition in 1860, with very slight modifications, or rather additions, clearly and minutely details a theory of periodic glaciations, and their regularly consequent submergences. I leave to those who are fully informed on such questions to decide whether the calculations and assumptions with which he has built his beautiful theory are in all cases sound. But I would recommend his work to such of your readers as take sufficient interest in this subject. It will be found to present a far more beautiful and suggestive view of things, under the ordinary every-day action of our home influences, than is likely to be met with in causes beyond the bounds of our solar system.

R. HANNAH.

## MR. LOWE'S COMETS.

IN the *Times* of August 29, 1865, there appeared a most interesting and important communication from Mr. E. J. Lowe, announcing his discovery of two comets on the evening of August 27. Both of these comets were visible to the naked eye; both were carefully examined with the aid of the telescope. One was so conspicuous an object, that it is described as twice the apparent size of Jupiter; and we are informed that "in a small telescope it exhibited a bright luminosity, having a dark oblong space in the centre." Nothing can, therefore, be more precise than this announced discovery. But extraordinary as it may appear that one observer should have had the good fortune to discover two comets in one night, the subsequent history of this discovery is more extraordinary still. These comets have never been seen since. Keen eyes and powerful telescopes have since swept the part of the sky in which these conspicuous objects were seen by Mr. Lowe, but the search has been fruitless. It appears to me, therefore, that if these comets were really seen by Mr. Lowe on the night of August 27, then by sunset the following evening they must have been completely dissipated. It is true that this view of the case is at first sight very improbable; but, on the other hand, it would appear quite as improbable that Mr.

Lowe's announced discovery should be an entire mistake. And although it might appear rash to assume a disintegration of these cometary masses so rapid that in a single day they were reduced from conspicuous brightness to a luminosity so feeble as to be beyond the reach of the most powerful telescopes, yet facts are stubborn things; and we should have something more than mere analogy to guide us in such a speculation. Besides the well-known temporary stars of Hipparchus, Tycho Brahe, and others, which have suddenly appeared in the heavens, and almost as suddenly disappeared, we have one case exactly to the point. In 1846, Biela's comet was actually seen under the eyes of many observers to split up into two distinct comets. If, therefore, in our limited experience, we have one case of a separation of cometary matter actually taking place under our eyes, is it quite impossible that such disintegrations of cometary masses should be frequent, and that they should take place on a much larger scale than that observed in the single cases of Biela's comet? and is it quite impossible that Mr. Lowe should have had the good fortune to meet with two such special cases in one night? If this explanation of the extraordinary disappearance of Mr. Lowe's comets is correct, Mr. Lowe's discovery is one of very great importance, and opens out to us most wonderful ideas of the intensity of the forces acting on cometary masses. If the above explanation of the disappearance of Mr. Lowe's comets is not considered satisfactory, then I am afraid that we must assume that they never existed except in Mr. Lowe's imagination,

E. J.

## THE VELOCITY OF LIGHT.

Edinburgh, October 2, 1865.

PROFESSOR Phillips, in his opening address to the British Association for the Advancement of Science, refers to certain experiments of M. Foucault's, as proving that the velocity of light is sensibly less than it had been deduced to be from the phenomena connected with the eclipses of Jupiter's satellites.

I would, however, beg leave, with all due deference, to point out that these experiments were, to use the Professor's own phrase, conducted in M. Foucault's "own apartment," and would, therefore, be throughout subject to the action of the earth's atmosphere; whereas, light in coming from any of Jupiter's satellites to the earth is not subject to any such influence, excepting only while traversing the comparatively short space occupied by the earth's atmosphere, and by any atmosphere that may surround the particular satellite from which it comes. And, as it has been proven that the rarer the medium the more quickly does light pass through it—at least, it has been so established as regards atmospheric air compared with water—it is submitted that M. Foucault's experiments do not prove more than simply the time taken by light to traverse space filled with atmospheric air of a certain density; it does not prove the time taken by light to traverse interplanetary space filled with ether; and it is further submitted that, this being the case, no deduction can be drawn from M. Foucault's experiments regarding the distance of Jupiter and the other planets from the sun, as asserted in the opening address.

H. K.

## REPORTS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

ITALIAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—It is a happy circumstance that the subject of the formation of such a society is engaging the attention of the ablest ethnologist the Peninsula has produced. The small number of the cultivators of the science in any one place, and the widely scattered universities and seats for the promotion of learning in this learned country, which has only recently awoke to a sense of its privileges and duties, present obstacles to the formation of any localized institution for the study of anthropology. Such difficulties will probably be overcome by a project for holding annual congresses in rotation in a series of the large cities of Italy. The Italian cultivators of the natural history sciences have had such a scheme in operation for some years. We trust that it may be matured for anthropology, and prove successful.

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB.—This society, recently formed under the presidency of Dr. Lankester, for the advancement of microscopical science amongst amateurs, held their monthly meeting on the 22nd instant at their rooms, 32 Sackville Street, Piccadilly. An interesting paper was read by Mr. M. C. Cooke, Vice-

President, on "Work for the Microscope," in which he pointed out several fields of research for amateurs, and more especially recommended the study of microscopical fungi. Many new members joined the club, and, after the transaction of the usual business, the meeting resolved itself into a *conversazione*—one of the objects of the society being to afford frequent opportunities for the exchange of specimens, discussion of doubtful points, and for cheerful converse on microscopical subjects with those of kindred tastes. The next meeting will take place on the 27th proximo, at eight o'clock.

## ART.

### BOMBAY SCHOOL OF DESIGN.

A RATHER interesting scheme for art-education has just been set on foot at Bombay. It may be remembered that some years ago a School of Design in connexion with the Department of Science and Art was founded at Bombay by Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy. This school has hitherto effected but little of the good or of the evil that was so confidently predicted. It is an exotic, which has as yet shown but few signs of being acclimatized, and none of bearing any fruit; it is simply kept alive by the munificence of its founder.

When we consider the intuitive faculty, the almost unerring instinct of the Oriental artist to cover everything he touches with ornament at once chaste and gorgeous—when we think of the sombre splendour of his work and its varied arrangement of hue and colour which seems as exempt from fault as nature herself—when we consider the contrast that the English decorator, till very recently, presented to all this, and that it is only by infinite pains, and the most careful study of the works of the Orientals themselves, that we are enabled to avoid the most jarring discords and the grossest vulgarity,—it is indeed well that the scheme for importing into India an English School of Design, with all the most recent and approved systems of art-instruction, should have been set on foot by one of the natives themselves; for an Englishman to have done so, would have been highly impertinent.

But we must not too readily conclude that Sir Jamsetjee had more money than wit when he founded so costly an undertaking. There is even here another side to the shield. It is well known that Oriental art is on the decline; in pottery, in carving, in inlaid work, in gold and silver, the modern work is not equal to the old. The causes for this may be found in a commercial demand which is contented with quantity rather than quality—in the general tendency of the upper classes to affect the style and tastes of Europe, and so no longer to encourage the highest native talent—or perhaps in a very general weariness of the monotonous correctness of Eastern ornament. In short, the decay of Oriental art may be traced to contact with the European mind. And after all, though we all admit the perfection of Oriental art, it soon palls upon us. It is perfect only up to a certain point; it is evenly distributed; it is faultless in colour, it is never obtrusive; it is a gorgeous, but an unintellectual fretwork, which might almost as well be the work of some insect as of man; it has none of the flow and freshness of the wayward beauty and human interest of Italian ornament. And the Indian princes and merchants who mix in European society, speak our language, and read our literature, have very naturally acquired a taste for our art also—a taste, of course, enhanced by its novelty. It is useless to regret this tendency, it is inevitable, and Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy might have spent his money worse than in an attempt to found a school of art adapted, as he thought, to the wants of the age. That it should hitherto have done but little to refine or control the taste of the Indian public, or to educate native artists capable of supplying so peculiar a demand for a foreign style of design, is hardly surprising. The rich and educated natives have continued to import their furniture, glass, plate, and pictures, from Europe, and the school would in time have died out but for one circumstance. The American war so enormously developed the cotton trade of Bombay, that in less than three years it became for its size the richest city in the world. Nothing stimulates art like a flush of riches. New men want new houses, and to fill them with splendour. Rustomjee Jejeebhoy seized upon the opportunity of supplementing his father's patriotic attempt to divert native talent into new and more profitable channels by placing a large



sum in the hands of the Bombay Government for the express purpose of meeting the demand for decorative art arising from the sudden wealth of Bombay.

After mature deliberation, it was determined to invite artists of power and experience, who, while they executed commissions, should take a certain number of pupils, should have the privilege of seeing them work, and, as they became more proficient, of taking part themselves in the decoration. This scheme is, in fact, a return to the custom of the best periods of art; no mere art theories or lectures can ever make an artist. Seeing others work, and working oneself, ought to be the backbone of all art education. It was accordingly determined to send out a skilled worker in metals, an architectural sculptor and modeller, and a mural decorator. Mr. Higgins, a most skilful and efficient artist in metals, is already engaged in Bombay. Mr. Kipling, an artist of considerable attainment and varied education, has accepted the position of architectural modeller, and is eminently qualified for the position. He has had considerable experience in the Potteries, has modelled and executed Gothic ornament and figures for Mr. Scott, and has had the advantage of working for some years under Mr. Sykes, on the decoration of the new buildings at South Kensington Museum. Mr. Griffiths, who goes out as mural decorator, is an artist of great promise, and has also worked under Mr. Sykes. These men are all thoroughly conversant with Oriental as well as Italian and Gothic decorative art, and are quite prepared to allow considerable latitude to their pupils in carrying out their designs, and will eagerly watch for any indications of a composite style. Such an experiment as this cannot fail to be interesting; and, but for the disastrous panic which has for a time paralyzed Bombay, it would seem to be certain of success. There is still plenty of money in Bombay, and when commercial matters mend, as mend they must, her merchant princes will not fail to support so promising a scheme.

#### THE THEATRES.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE opened for its two-hundredth time on last Saturday week, and many as have been the vicissitudes it has undergone, never were the chances greater of there being a difficulty as to the opening of the doors. Mr. Falconer, who may be said to be the poetical and artistic manager of the theatre, had applied to the Court of Chancery to grant an injunction to prevent its opening, there being unhappily a dispute between himself and his new partner, Mr. Chatterton, as to their respective rights and authority. The Vice-Chancellor Wood, with the excellent sense as well as sound law which characterize his judgments, refused to deprive the town of their customary pleasure. The opening of Drury-lane, under various dynasties and innumerable changes of manners, customs, and pleasures, has always been considered as the commencement of the winter campaign of public entertainments in the metropolis. The worthy Vice-Chancellor seemed to have considered that the public had rights or claims equally with the lessees, and he determined to consider them. The fact seems to be that the two managers have somewhat rigidly divided the duties of management. The dramatist manager having raised and made himself lessee of Drury Lane by his pen and his literary power and dramatic genius, might be inclined too much to depend upon those means which raised himself and the Lyceum from ruin to prosperity. To the author of "Extremes" and "Peep o' Day," extraordinarily popular pieces, the pen still seemed to be the great power to support a theatre like Drury Lane. The more trading partner looked to many other less poetic modes of attracting audiences and keeping their custom. The great criterion with such men is not the approval of the critics, or even the applause of the audience, but the evidence of the treasurer's books. Such men judge not "Hamlet" or "The School for Scandal" by any æsthetic rules; but they see what they bring in cash to the theatre; and if, on an average, they produce the most, they are the finest plays. If they do not, then the "Lady of Lyons," and even "Jack Sheppard" or the "Colleen Bawn," are much better. The judges in the treasury merely cast up the ledger on each side, and decide according as the balance preponderates to one set of performances or the other.

This may not be the best way of managing a great national theatre, but then our theatres are not national in the sense of deriving any other

than a voluntary support from the nation. As long, however, as theatres are mere commercial speculations, this rule of thumb must to a certain extent prevail. Not that it is altogether, even in itself, a completely successful mode of ruling an artistic establishment. There is so much that is tentative and experimental in a theatre, that after all, the artistic and poetic mind is most likely to secure its fortune. The rigidly arithmetical decision may restrain vanity, or a wild love of the romantic, or an uncritical judgment, but it never will initiate any new forms of art, nor make any of those hits by novelty which bring fortune to a theatre. The Vice-Chancellor Wood seems to have had some such notions in his mind, for he decreed that the parties actively concerned in the management of Drury Lane Theatre should continue to act in their own departments; the stage to be under the management of Mr. Phelps and Mr. Roxby; the money to be paid in by the present treasurer to the bankers, and to be disbursed in the usual manner; the partners to exercise a general supervision; and this to go on until November, unless special application was made to the court.

It is not a pleasant thing to see our pleasures in Chancery; but they might have fallen into worse hands than Vice-Chancellor Wood, who modestly disclaimed undertaking to manage the great metropolitan theatre. Of course, we cannot pronounce any judgment on the unhappy difference between Mr. Falconer and Mr. Chatterton, and should not have alluded to it, had not the law proceedings and the general discussion of the subject made it a public one. Every one must deplore a difference which may interfere with a prosperity creditably and deservedly won by the two years' management of Drury Lane. The sympathies of people, as they are artistic or practical, will naturally tend towards one or the other partner. The talent and ability that have won Mr. Falconer a place in the literary and dramatic circles cannot but induce a hope that he might continue to profit by them; and this feeling will be especially strengthened in those who have a partiality for the didactic and poetic drama, which he so ardently devotes himself to. On the other hand, the business and practical manager will be upheld by those who believe in regularity, routine, and arithmetical calculation. Some union of both is undoubtedly necessary for any mixed speculation like that of a leading theatre; and it may be hoped that by the interposition of friends of the partners and of the drama some medium course may be come to. The excellent and successful mode in which the theatre has been conducted since it fell into the present hands, make it highly desirable that nothing should interfere with that course.

The genuine throng of visitors on the opening night shows that the management have lost none of their prestige. The house was crowded from the floor to the ceiling with a highly-respectable assemblage, and the usual attention and applause was bestowed on the *chefs d'œuvres* of our two greatest poets—Shakespeare and Milton. Last year unusual care was bestowed on the getting up of "Macbeth," and when the season closed, it was in the midst of its run. The admiration of the revival has abated none of its energy, and the tremendous tragedy was listened to with as deep attention as ever. The immense size of the stage, as well as the taste of the times, necessitate that the dramatic poem should be illustrated and aided by all the art that the scene-painter, costumier, and stage-manager can bestow upon it. Viewed rather as a grand panoramic display, in which the events operate on the mind and fortunes of the central hero, rather than a minute and psychological exposition of a peculiar idiosyncrasy, the play is more fitted to please a miscellaneous audience consisting of three thousand spectators. The scene-painter in this scheme of representation comes to be on a par with the poet and the actor, as far as the external view of the performance is concerned, and no doubt contributes very largely to the entertainment.

Mr. Wm. Beverley has often proved himself to be a poetic artist, and he has done so in the illustration of "Macbeth." Without descending to mere archaeological details, and getting up the scenes with painful accuracy, he has felt that the first duty of a painter is to be picturesque; and he suggests with power the age of superstition and brute force in which the play is laid. The blasted heath may not be botanically correct, but it suggests the barren, misty, weird place that the foul sisters delighted to haunt; and it is, at all events, quite as real as the witches. The interior and exterior of the Thane's castle may not be that kind of architecture which actually prevailed in the eleventh

century in Scotland, but it is massive, gloomy, and grand. The court leading to Duncan's chamber is worthy of the horrid deed and the tumultuous passions it excites. The entrance is a part of a fortification made to laugh a siege to scorn; and its lofty walls seem to reverberate the din of the tempest that rages without them. The banquetting hall is barbarous and gorgeous; and the external view of the castle on "high Dunsinane Hill" piles up turret and wall far into the sky, and looks impregnable. We here speak of the scenery as a fitting frame for the Titanic passions that occupy the actors. There are several things in the grouping, especially as relates to the battle, which might be better managed, and which should be looked to. Supernumeraries can very easily reduce the most important situations to ridicule. It is a necessary part of this plan of representing the tragedy that the enlarged utterance of the witches should be given. It is quite apparent that when the author intended principally to portray a man like *Macbeth*, led on to the commission of enormous crimes by supernatural agency, the three witches and the slight appearance of *Hecate* and her sprites were quite sufficient to induce and mark the mental development of crime; but when the play came to be made a grand historical series of events, then Dryden and Davenant's addition of a crowd of witches who would chant their hellish rites and lure on a great king to tyranny and slaughter, was equally necessary to enlarge this portion of the performance. The genius of the composer (whether Locke or not) fell in capitally with this arrangement, and his wild, weird, but most characteristic and decisive music has always been clung to by the frequenters of the theatre since it was first heard. The pit of Acheron, as displayed at Drury Lane Theatre, is one of the most successful scenes, and occasionally touched the poetical. The singing was good, and the stage, in its half light, gave an idea of the sublime, when the crowd of witches dispersed and left the three hags, the cauldron sinking, and the strange aerial "noise" floating through the air. The phantom kings flitted past in an equally effective manner. The management of the singing witches might, however, be better, by keeping them more in the dim distance of the stage, and not bringing them down to the wings, so that we recognize the familiar and not very poetic faces of the supernumeraries.

The acting does not require analyzing. Mr. Phelps scarcely sufficiently accommodates himself to the large setting of the play, which requires rather a sculptural than a metaphysical delineation of the hero. True to his Shakespearian devotion, he endeavours to mark every change of this changeable being; and succeeds to a great extent, though the affluence of the author's imagination is too vast for any actor to fully carry out; the intricacies as well as the force of the character being beyond the reach of perfect delineation. It seems to us the most difficult of all Shakespeare's creations to fully realize.

The play was followed by "Comus," which, as a spectacle, pretty well combines the poetic, the musical, and the artistic. Its rich scenes engage the eye and induce a mixed audience to listen with reverence to the unequalled blank verse, relieved as it occasionally is by Arne's music. The only change is that of Mr. Henri Drayton as *Comus*, vice Mr. Walter Lacy, the benefit of this change being that one individual recites the verse and sings the songs—a union very seldom carried out in the performance of this character. Mr. Drayton has a rich voice and a fine and suitable figure, but he lacks joviality. Miss Poole, Miss Thompson, and Mr. Wilbye Cooper sing their portions admirably. The stage management, as regards "the rebel rout," deserves praise; it is picturesque and animated.

The only other theatrical event is the re-opening of the Prince of Wales' Theatre, as before, under the direction of Miss Marie Wilton. Mr. H. J. Byron provided a new burlesque on the opera of "Lucia di Lammermoor," which being a parody of the opera, and not of the immortal novel, had more music, dancing, and singing absurdity in it than force of character or dialogue. The ladies carried away the applause—Miss Wilton as *Ravenswood*, Miss Josephs as *Bucknor*, and Miss Hughes (an excellent addition to the company) as *Alice*. Comediettas, cleverly played, continue to be the staple commodity of this very pretty little theatre.

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